TREND SETTER
An inside look at recruitment

PHOTO FINISH
Student photos capture global, multicultural experience

FOND FAREWELL
Friend reflects on alumnus' passing

Wartburg

Spring 2009

MAGAZINE

Karris, left, and Mara McClellan posed for this photo while touring the Gold Reef Mine in Johannesburg, South Africa.
Courtesy photo

From the Editor

I have taken advantage of myriad opportunities to travel extensively. I have learned that many things we sometimes believe inherently American—Iowan—are often universal themes and issues.

In November, I took part in a study seminar in South Africa. The seminar focused on "Women Building Global Communities," joining participants from the United States and sub-Saharan Africa. We tackled topics like the AIDS/HIV pandemic, poverty and gender justice with women in churches throughout rural and urban South Africa communities, often over hot tea, strong coffee and delicious cookies.

The seminar taught me that while there may be minor variations in our troubles, the need to walk with each other on such journeys is universal. By sharing our stories, U.S. and southern African women began to bridge gaps and foster understanding.

On pages 28-29, I share some photos from my experience in South Africa. I continue to maintain correspondence with the African and U.S. women and plan follow up actions, including reunions. In that vein, Brittany Feagan's story on pages 24-25 shares the story of John Kuckelman's commitment to continue the connections he forged while studying in Tanzania.

John's global and multicultural experiences and my own are a testament to Wartburg's ability to encourage students in pursuing expanded learning opportunities. And I believe that as alumni we are excited to share this and other gifts with the next generation of Wartburg students, but we don't know where to start.

If you feel that way, check out "Trend Setter" (beginning on page 2), which offers information and tools for alumni to assist in recruiting.

Karris

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On the cover:

Karris Golden '98, editor of *Wartburg Magazine*, and Lori Wallace, art director of *Wartburg Magazine*, created this photo illustration using the Wartburg viewbook and recruitment materials from other colleges and universities. The viewbook and other Wartburg admissions materials have won numerous awards and have been praised at national higher education conferences. A story on Wartburg admissions and financial aid begins on page 2.

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TRANSCRIPTS:
To obtain an official college transcript, contact the Registrar's Office or complete an online request form at www.wartburg.edu/academics/registrar/trreq.html. There is a $4 fee per transcript, plus a $1 fee to fax the transcript. Requests must include maiden and all married names used, as well as birth date and/or Social Security number. Enclose return address and payment with the request.

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TREND SETTER

Wartburg competes for top students in a highly competitive market

by Karris Golden '98

News headlines forecast a bleak situation for institutions of higher education, noting everything from rising costs to high student-loan indebtedness.

Don't believe the hype, says Dr. William E. Hamm '66, interim Wartburg president.

"A key strength of American higher education is the diversity of the institutions," he explains. "There are abundant choices, and yet year after year, Wartburg's admissions effort has outpaced many of its competitors. Enrollment has grown steadily—more than 80 percent in the past 30 years and up 400 students in the last 10. In addition, the quality of the entering class keeps improving. That isn't happening everywhere."

> *"It's true, financing a college education is a complex decision under any circumstances."*
>
> – Dr. Edith Waldstein '73

In fact, Wartburg is healthy, vibrant and setting trends in student recruiting, adds J. Todd Coleman, assistant vice president for admissions and alumni and parent programs.

"The current first-year class includes some of the college's finest students. Applications are up, and recruitment is strong," Coleman says. "What makes Wartburg stand out is the experience we create. Here, we focus on offering unique opportunities to talented students and their families."

During the 2008-09 academic year, the college posted its second highest number of full-time students, with total enrollment at 1,799. The first-year class of 514 students recorded the highest average ACT score—24.1—in the last eight years.

The college was a popular choice for many top students, as 2,500 applied for admission.

"Wartburg's enrollment is strong, both quantitatively and qualitatively," says Dr. Edith Waldstein '73. "Our students are attracted to Wartburg's mission of challenging students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning. They come to Wartburg academically prepared and continue to develop as educated persons

College is an investment

95% of Wartburg graduates finish in four years

66% of juniors and seniors complete for-credit internships with top-rated organizations and companies (according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, 66% of interns are offered full-time jobs at their internship sites)

99% of Wartburg graduates have found jobs or are in graduate/professional school within six months of graduation.

who make a wide variety of contributions in their local and global communities."

The college also continues to draw a more diverse student body, Hamm adds. "Students are coming from more distant places, and the percentage of international and U.S. students of color exceeds that of many other private colleges," he says.

Another point of pride, says Hamm, is Wartburg's ability to remain true to its mission.

"Many colleges have increased enrollment by changing their mission to include adult students studying in the evening or on weekends," he explains. "Wartburg has grown enrollment the old-fashioned way—by attracting more and better traditional-aged students for the undergraduate, residential liberal arts program."

However, the Wartburg admissions effort is anything but old-fashioned, he adds.

Recruitment is key piece

Recruiting well-rounded, highly intelligent and broadly skilled students isn't as easy as it looks, says Coleman. Wartburg goes toe-to-toe with other institutions when trying to engage prospective students.

While continuing with the established, award-winning "Be Orange" recruitment campaign, Wartburg admissions counselors work hard to maintain momentum.

"We do a great job because of a concerted team effort on the part of our admissions counselors, faculty and alumni," he says. "I wonder if people really understand how competitive it is; a lot of institutions pursue the top students. Alumni are among our best recruiters; who better to explain the Wartburg experience to prospective students?"

Photos by Greg Brown

Who is a Wartburg student?

They represent 27 states

72% are from Iowa

9% are from Minnesota

6% are from Illinois

3% are from Wisconsin

53% are women

47% are men

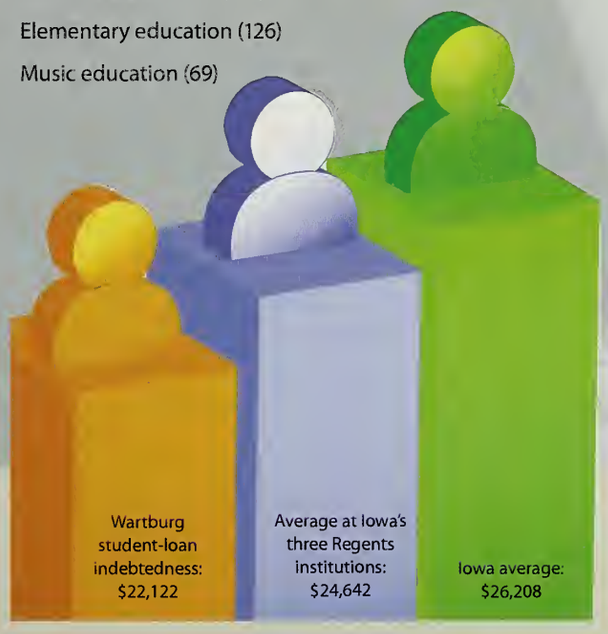
99 students are from 39 countries outside the United States

There are 140 U.S. students of color

Students represent 30 distinct religious affiliations

55% choose one of the top five majors:

- Business administration (329)
- Biology (321)
- Communication arts (152)
- Elementary education (126)
- Music education (69)



Wartburg student-loan indebtedness below average for Iowa

Percentage of Iowa college and university students with some student-loan debt: 73%

The investment in a Wartburg education results in career success that allows 99% of Wartburg graduates to repay their college loans—13 percentage points higher than the national average.

*Source: The Project on Student Debt

Check out Wartburg's admissions materials at

http://www.beorange.net

The campus visit helps ensure a student will choose Wartburg. Most campus guests are provided an individual campus tour with a current student ambassador to answer their questions.

The Admissions Office has added a new follow-up video that is sent to every prospective student who visits Wartburg. The video thanks the students and asks them to provide feedback about their visit experience.

In addition, student guests have a private, one-on-one visit with a faculty member in their area of academic interest. Finally, guests receive a free lunch in the Mensa if their schedule allows.

Iowa Private College Week—the first week in August—has been a boon to Wartburg's recruitment efforts. In fact, more than a third who visit campus during that time enroll at Wartburg. The annual event is sponsored by the Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and provides prospective college students a coordinated, weeklong opportunity to visit private college campuses. It includes campus tours and informational meetings designed to assist students in matching their interests and skills with educational needs and goals.

"A unique aspect about the Wartburg experience during Iowa Private College Week is that each student is provided with a personalized viewbook with their own picture on it," says Coleman.

Wartburg draws some of the highest numbers in terms of visits among the Iowa colleges participating in the week.

""Wartburg has a lot of momentum, and we want to sustain that," says Coleman. "Alumni, parents and friends can help us by talking about the personal benefits of attending Wartburg. Everyone has their own unique story to tell, and we need them out there telling that story to prospective students and their parents."

Alumni assistance bolsters the efforts of "talented coaches, outstanding music directors, skilled academic advisers and a vibrant campus ministry," Hamm adds. That is, students attend Wartburg because of a variety of committed people—alumni, faculty, staff, students and sometimes friends of the college.

"Students aren't just picking a private college for academics; they're looking to Wartburg as a place to gain the broadest possible set of opportunities," says Hamm.

Consider 'cost, not price'

Likewise, prospective students must assess the return that comes from investing in a college education, Waldstein advises.

"It's true, financing a college education is a complex decision under any circumstances," she says. "It's also true that higher education costs outpace the rate of inflation. During these economic times, it is particularly important to differentiate between price and cost."

Tuition costs have increased at public and private institutions alike. However, private colleges and universities also have steadily increased the amount of financial aid they provide, Waldstein explains.

"At Wartburg College, we spend more than $21 million of our budget on financial aid to students, and that's not including state and federal aid," she says. "As a result, the actual cost of a Wartburg education is often competitive with or less than that at other types of institutions."

Wartburg's cutting edge enrollment management model also allows the college to have a larger strategic enrollment plan as well as personalize a student's experience, Waldstein adds. This model is designed and implemented comprehensively to integrate the student's individual situation and goals. Waldstein said it allows the college to meet the student's various needs, from recruitment to financial aid and on through the full academic and co-curricular experience to graduation.

This personalization positions the college to better assist students financially and academically, says Waldstein.

Financial aid snapshot

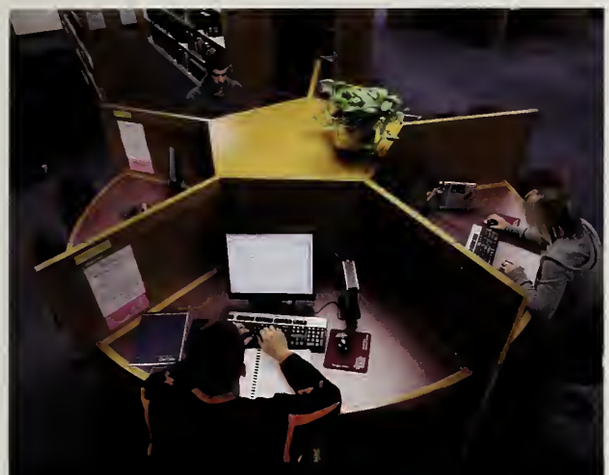
Ashley '12, Council Bluffs, Iowa

Academic profile: graduated top half of high school class

Desired course of study: exploring several majors

Need for aid: high

Wartburg Opportunity Award	$9,000
Wartburg College Grant	$2,000
Iowa Tuition Grant—State	$4,000
Pell Grant—Federal	$3,981
Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant—Federal	$500
Academic Competitiveness Grant—Federal	$750
Subsidized Stafford Loan	$3,500
Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	$2,000
Campus Employment—Federal	$2,000
Total	**$27,731**



In February, Congress approved a stimulus bill that provides increased aid to college students through a variety of programs. This means boosts in programs like Federal Work-Study and the College Opportunity Tax Credit. Congress also has provided $17 billion for Pell Grants, raising the amount per student to $5,350 for the 2009-10 academic year.

According to Jennifer Sassman, Wartburg director of financial aid, families can prepare for college costs. She tailors her advice to the age of the child. For example, parents of younger children should work on saving at least a third of anticipated college costs.

Sassman explains a "rule of thirds" when it comes to financing a college education: Plan to save a third, borrow a third through student and/or parent loans and get the remaining third through various forms of aid.

Among the variety of savings plans and methods of financial assistance are educational savings bonds, Roth IRAs and tax credits for parents with children in college. Sassman advises consulting with a financial planner to best assess your personal needs; each situation is unique.

"Savings are better than borrowing, but if you haven't saved enough, there are still options," says Sassman.

Employing a "partnership" model, Sassman discusses different aid options with students, including gifts that don't require repayment and self help, such as loans and employment. She also outlines aid sources, including federal and state government programs, institutional awards and community, church, business and private programs.

Photos by Greg Brown, Mark Adkins '90

Professors integral to student recruitment

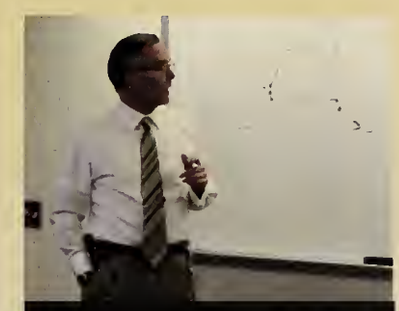
Q&A with Dr. Daniel Black

Q: Why is it important for faculty members to help recruit prospective students?
A: I think faculty are in the best position to inform students about the strengths of particular programs, the value of the total Wartburg experience, the expectations of the various courses of study and the kind of outcomes the student can expect. Strong programs are based on strong students. Recruiting is one of the most effective ways to improve a program.

Q: What can prospective students expect from a visit with you?
A: I usually meet with prospective students in my office. However, my office is primarily my workspace, not a seminar room. I try to convey an atmosphere of professionalism as well as appearing human. These meetings are usually not just about sitting around chatting; I try to find out a little more about the students' reasons for considering engineering as a profession, what kind of longer term goals they have and their co-curricular interests.

I hope the students leave my office with a good idea of what the engineering major can and can't do for them, what kind of experiences they can expect while at Wartburg and where they can go from here. Of course, I'm always looking for more—and more talented—students, but I spend quite a bit of time with each student explaining what Wartburg in general and I in particular can do to help them if it turns out engineering is not their vocation. I spend probably just as much time emphasizing the value of the Essential Education* program as I do the major.

Q: What information and impression of Wartburg and your program do you hope prospective students leave with?
A: I hope they feel Wartburg faculty members are serious about their jobs, passionate about their callings, compassionate and approachable. I want them to understand that at Wartburg, undergraduate education is Job One. I want them to have realistic expectations about the program and hope they feel that I have answered their questions honestly and completely.



Dr. Daniel Black, professor of physical and engineering science, has taught at Wartburg since 1993 and advises students in those disciplines. He earned his bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. degrees from Iowa State University.

*The Wartburg Plan of Essential Education includes required and elective courses in the liberal arts that constitute one-third of the course work for a bachelor's degree. These courses include humanities, arts, social sciences and natural sciences.

5 reasons I selected Wartburg

MacKenzie Benson '12
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

The people
From my tour guide to the Admissions Office staff, everyone went above and beyond.

The opportunity to study all I want
At Wartburg, I know I can double-major, making myself much more competitive in the workforce. I also appreciate that I can choose to take part in a variety of experiential learning programs, like study abroad and internship for academic credit. And I'll still graduate in four years!

The cost
People think private college is too expensive, but it costs me less to go to Wartburg than it would have cost me to attend a lot of other places. Wartburg was also so willing to work with me on financial aid.

The atmosphere
When you visit Wartburg, there really is something special about it. Everyone is so friendly, and walking around campus you feel like you're part of a community that is seizing the phenomenal, once-in-a-lifetime opportunities Wartburg provides.

The attitude
I knew Wartburg would let me be myself and help me recognize my true potential and my passions.

Benson is from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and is considering a major in political science.

For more information on private colleges and financial aid, check out

www.wartburg.edu/finaid
www.collegevalue.com
www.thinkindependently.com
800-4-FED-AID
FastWeb.com
WiredScholar.com

Parents of college-aged students should explore options like scholarships, grants, loans and tax credits.

"If the student is in high school, he or she should work on building a resume that includes community service, volunteering, scholarly achievements, writing skills and other types of involvement," Sassman advises. "You have to build yourself up, so that when your junior or senior year of high school comes, you're a good candidate for scholarships. Apply for everything!"

The Wartburg Financial Aid Office has an open door policy to counsel all families and also urges students to seek out additional advice from admissions and high school guidance counselors and librarians. (See "More information on private colleges and financial aid," below left, for contact information.)

"Never pay for anything—advice or assistance when searching on the Internet or filling out applications, etc.," Sassman warns. "There is so much free, reputable information out there; paying for such services is unnecessary."

All families also should fill out a Free Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon after Jan. 1 as possible—every year.

Some parents believe they won't be eligible for aid, so they neglect to fill out these forms or wait until later in the spring or summer. However, says Sassman, a FAFSA is essential for every student portfolio and helps determine everything from grant and loan eligibility to candidacy for work-study programs.

Financial aid snapshot

Josh '12, Colorado

Academic profile: earned a composite score of 25 on the ACTs

Desired course of study: elementary education

Need for aid: moderate

Wartburg Presidential Scholarship	$10,000
Wartburg Legacy Grant (grandmother is alumna)	$1,500
Out-of-State Grant	$2,500
Campus Employment—Federal	$2,000
Subsidized Stafford Loan—Federal	$3,500
Unsubsidized Stafford Loan—Federal	$2,000
Total	**$21,500**

"Respond promptly to requests, complete loan and work applications upon receipt and stay in touch with the college(s) of your choice," she adds. "The more you can do to stay ahead of the game, the more likely you are to receive assistance."

If you're still concerned with "sticker price," evaluate the actual out-of-pocket costs when weighing a private college against a public institution, Waldstein says.

"All things considered, you're often not paying much—if any—more for a private education as compared to a public education," she explains. "You're getting more for your money—smaller classes taught by faculty, not graduate assistants; individual attention in a nurturing environment that challenges you intellectually; faculty advisers; a well-rounded liberal arts education that will serve you in any post-baccalaureate study and career; and the likelihood of graduating in four years, not five or six."

Such features add value to the investment, Waldstein says.

"College really is a once in a lifetime experience—unlike other investments that you make over and over again," she explains. "So college is an investment and a life experience. It's one of few that has the potential to continue increasing in value long after you've paid for it."

Golden edits Wartburg Magazine.

Your admissions toolbox

Here are some tools to help you help others learn more about Wartburg College:

Visit www.wartburg.edu to learn more about Wartburg.

Encourage students to visit campuses of schools they are considering, including Wartburg.

Make sure the prospective student takes that ACT or SAT in their junior or senior year.

Meet all deadlines for application, scholarships, financial aid and housing.

Alumni can provide names of interested students to the Admissions Office by visiting

www.wartburg.edu/forms/waveform.aspx

Contact the Admissions Office about bringing a group of students to visit Wartburg (www.wartburg.edu/admissions/visitation.html).

Show prospective students the Be Orange videos at www.youtube.com/user/BeOrangeatWartburg.

How do they do it?

An inside look at Wartburg recruitment process

by Tara Winter '01, associate director of admissions-operations and head cheerleading coach

"John"

Junior year of high school

April

- Met John at a college fair
- Sent follow-up note to thank him for his interest in Wartburg
- Put John in database, because he submitted his information at the college fair; he will receive mailings targeted toward high school seniors

May

- Sent a postcard to congratulate John on an outstanding ACT score

July

- Sent invitation to Iowa Private College Week
- Spiritcaller (Wartburg student) called John to sign him up for Iowa Private College Week

August

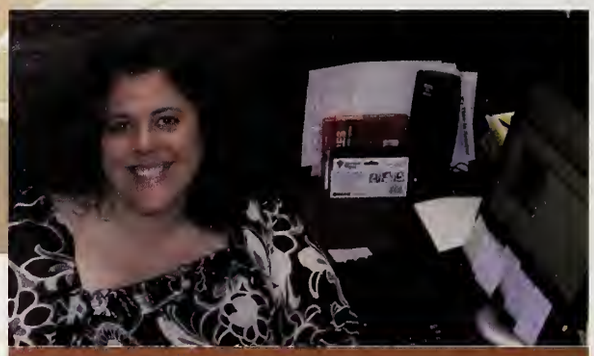
- John attends IPCW
- Sent follow-up e-mail with John's own picture on the Wartburg viewbook cover

Senior year

September

- Sent postcard to let John know I'd be at his high school in two weeks
- Spiritcaller reminded John I would be at his high school the following day
- Visited with John at his high school and encouraged him to set up an individual visit geared toward his personal interests; he also told a few friends to talk with me because he had such a good time on campus at IPCW

continued on page 9



Dr. Penni Pier, associate professor of communication arts

Q&A with Dr. Penni Pier

Q: Among your duties is advising and coordinating the communication studies major. How does recruiting help grow your program and others?
A: I have a vested interest in recruiting students to our department. I want to know what their expectations are of our department and our college. While our Admissions Office does a fine job of recruiting and can talk generally about Wartburg, I have a primary connection to our current students and can explain the vision that our department has for educating students in the 21st century.

Q: What is your objective when you visit with a prospective student and her/his family?
A: My primary objective is to have an honest dialogue about what the student wants from a college education and what they can expect to get from a Wartburg education. I have a great respect for a liberal arts education. I make it clear that I expect our majors will take full advantage of all of the expertise we have on our campus—beyond the walls of McElroy Communication Arts Center. I know when I meet with a student it is a possibility he or she may not become a communication arts major, so I try to make an assessment of whether Wartburg will be a good fit in general. With regard to the characteristics of a student that I would ideally like to recruit, I look for a student who is open to asking difficult questions and is up for a challenge.

Q: How do you engage a prospective student's interest?
A: I have a very relaxed style of recruitment; I like to dialogue with the student. We know that if students have a personal connection with the faculty of a prospective college, it increases the likelihood that they will evaluate the campus in a positive light. Additionally, a great many of the Admissions ambassadors* are majors in our department, so before they even meet us they get a sense of who we are.

It is very important that prospective students feel comfortable in our department. To that end, Dr. William Withers, Grant L. Price Department Chair in Communication Arts, and I made conscious decisions to redecorate our offices to include multiple seating spaces for family members. It creates an atmosphere in which relaxed conversation can take place and students feel at home, which is our ultimate goal.

Q: How do you encourage prospective students to consider Wartburg?
A: I tell them about the wonderful opportunities they are likely to get here that they may not necessarily get at a different institution. I share the Wartburg story of our alumni and how a student's time here has the potential to become a partnership for life. That's because we have many alumni who are generous with their time and talents and serve as excellent resources and networking opportunities.

In our department, every student is required to have an internship, so I discuss the benefits of that aspect of our program. Of course, that can lead to a discussion of Wartburg West,** study abroad and May Term experiences we have encouraged and cultivated over the past few years.

Dr. Penni Pier, associate professor of communication arts, has taught at Wartburg since 2000. She earned a bachelor's degree from Moorhead State University; a master's degree from Southwest Missouri State University; and Ph.D. degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She's shown here advising Kate Elliot '09 of Lamont, Iowa.

Q: What impression do you hope a prospective student leaves with?
The very last thing I tell students before they leave is that they need to find a college home that is a fit for them. We want students to come to Wartburg and stay connected to us long after they have received their diploma. Personally, I hope that when they leave they feel as if they have been listened to. There should be an honest and open dialogue with a faculty member who is clearly passionate about what her department is about and has a commitment to educating the whole person.

*Admissions ambassadors are students who volunteer to give campus tours to a variety of campus visitors, including prospective students and their families.
**Wartburg West is the college's academic internship program in Denver, Colo., where students can complete course work, internships or student-teaching requirements.

Photos by Karris Golden, Greg Brown

Financial aid snapshot

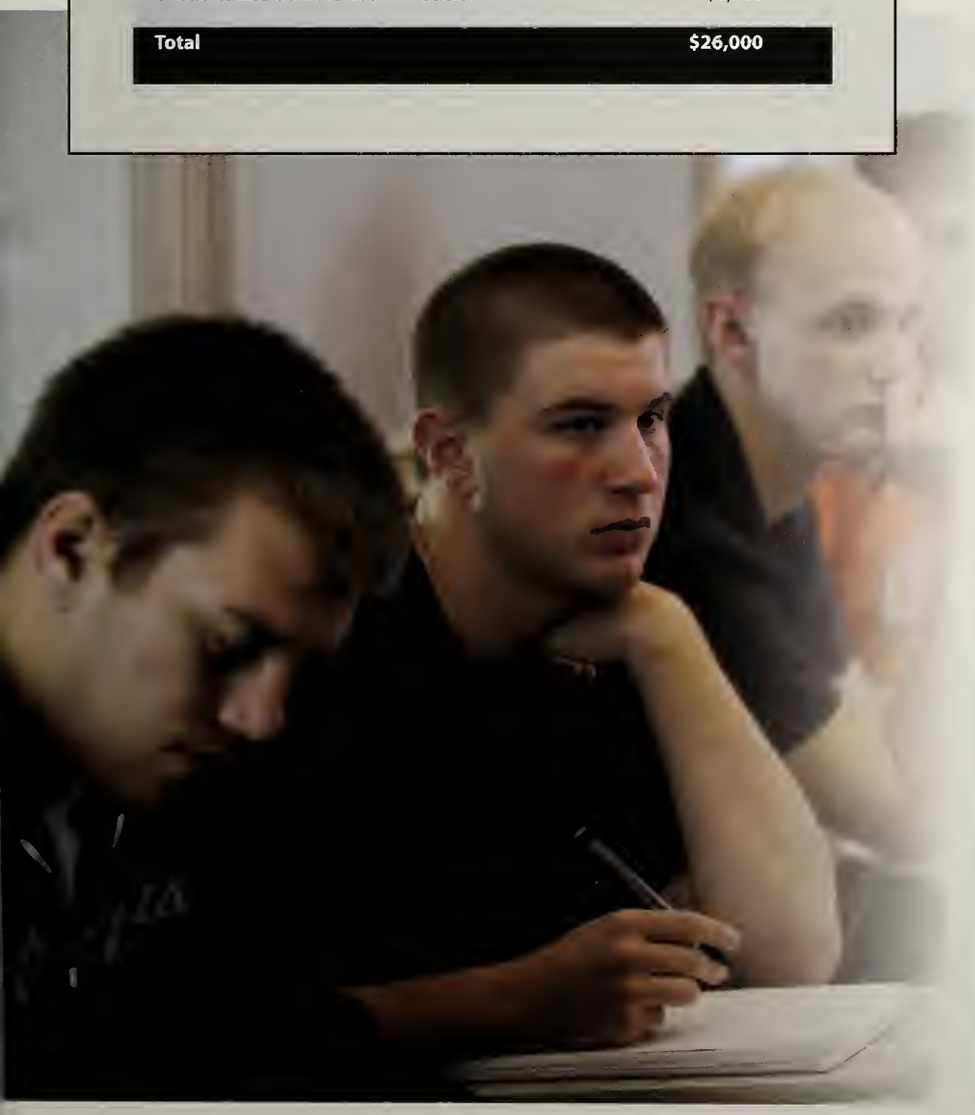
Katelyn '12, Sioux City, Iowa

Academic profile: ranked in the top 10 percent of high school class, ACT composite score of 29

Desired course of study: chemistry (pre-medicine)

Need for aid: doesn't qualify for need-based aid

Wartburg Regents Scholarship	$16,000
Wartburg Cedar Valley Science Fellowship	$1,000
Educational Partners in Covenant—Wartburg	$750
Educational Partners in Covenant—Congregation	$750
Campus Employment	$2,000
Unsubsidized Stafford Loan—Federal	$5,500
Total	**$26,000**



- Sent follow-up postcard thanking him for meeting with me at the high school
- Spiritcaller encouraged John to apply by Dec. 1 to be a part of our Early Admissions Program

October

- E-mailed link to apply online soon so John can participate in scholarship day in November or January
- Received John's online application; still waiting on transcripts, recommendations
- John visited campus again to meet with a professor and coach and visit a class

November

- Spiritcaller reminded John to send transcripts and recommendations
- Called John to congratulate him on acceptance to Wartburg; signed him up for scholarship day in January

December

- Sent John a Christmas card
- Called to discuss the early financial aid estimate he received because he was accepted before Dec. 1

January

- Called John to confirm participation in scholarship day
- Met with John, parents at scholarship day
- Sent a formal thank you note to John for participating in scholarship day

February

- Called John to congratulate him on his Regents Scholarship!

March

- Called John to go over financial aid award
- John sent in enrollment deposit, housing reservation. He is coming to Wartburg!
- Sent John a birthday card

April

- John signed up for Summer Orientation, Advising and Registration (SOAR) in May

May

- John attends SOAR, signs up for classes

July

- John receives roommate assignment

August

- John moves to campus and begins Orange EXCELeration orientation program

Photo Essay: Global & Multicultural Studies

Each academic year, the Global and Multicultural Studies program sponsors a photo contest for students who have taken part in off-campus immersion study of another culture. The photos on these pages were selected for top honors in the GMCS photo contest.

Photo Contest Winners

The End of the World

First Place

taken in Sagres, Portugal, by Maribel Lopez '10, a Spanish and communication arts major from Altoona, Iowa

Before it was known that the world was round, this spot, known as "The End of the World," was what convinced people that the world was flat. ... I visited "The End of the World" on a weekend trip with the Seville Spanish program. Not only was the view breathtaking (because of) its sunset color sky and overall sheer beauty, but I was also breathless (because of) the freezing North Atlantic breeze. I took many photographs at this location but this particular one occurred as I was backing away, trying to get one last glance at "The End of the World." ... I noticed the group ahead of me. The majority of the faceless silhouettes had their heads bowed and appeared to be marching toward the end of the cliff ... and for some reason I found it to be moving.

Twisted

Second Place

John Kuckelmann '09 of Keokuk, Iowa, traveled in Tanzania

John Kuckelman '09 took this photo of a Mboa Mboa tree, titled "Twisted," while studying in Tanzania. The photo won second place in the Global & Multicultural Studies photo contest. He said of the tree: "For whatever reason it had grown very uniquely and was so exceptional that I stopped to get a better look. Upon closer inspection, the tree trunk and branches grew every which way, twisting and ascending into the African sky."

Katanuma Day

Third Place

taken in Japan by Chelsea Jensen '10, a Spanish and international relations major with a minor in intercultural studies from Ames, Iowa

While preparing for my trip, I read a lot of books about Japan. I wanted to prepare myself as best as possible. But the books I read could not prepare me for everything I was about to see. Japan is a land of contrasts. And with those contrasts comes the need to find balance. Japanese (people), by the very nature of their island homeland, are susceptible to catastrophe and are taught from the beginning to appreciate nature and beauty but know that it is momentary. Everything fades.

This photo was taken of Lake Katanuma in northern Japan, on the main island of Honshu. While it appears beautiful and calm, everything is not as it seems. This is not a lake to swim in. It is one of the most acidic lakes in the world, formed from a volcanic crater. From a distance one can smell the sulfur that it contains. So while it appears to be a tropical paradise, it has something else in store for the viewer.

Elder at Malali

Faculty and Staff Choice

taken in Tanzania by Aaron Schutte '09, an elementary education major from St. Olaf, Iowa

The beauty and rich history of Tanzania's land and people can be traced along the face of this Maasai elder. While the land and people have changed over his many years, many Maasai traditions remain unchanged, as represented in his dress and jewelry. The Maasai are one of the only 125 tribes of Tanzania to hold on to their tradition in an ever changing world. ... This picture is a constant reminder of the people of Tanzania. The vibrant colors represent the emanating colors of the land and people. ... I met people willing to open their homes and livelihoods to complete strangers. I was blessed to spend my time with the Maasai and people of Tanzania and can only wait for my next chance to return to that beautiful land.

Untitled

Student Choice

from Guyana taken by Daniele Schroeder '10, a biology major from Lodi, Wis.

The 741-foot drop of Kaieteur Falls is absolutely breathtaking, especially when you are lying on your stomach next to the falls peeking your head over the edge of the cliff. You get a really good sense of just how small you really are, looking down at the gorgeous valley. Lying there, taking everything in, I was saddened ... to think back to looking out the windows of the tiny 12-seater plane that must be taken to get to the falls. (I remembered) the large areas of land completely void of vegetation. ... Being in a place so amazing made me realize the great importance of protecting the many endangered places in the world.

Sesker has special 4th Estate view of Beijing Olympics

by Mark Adkins '90

Press conferences, interviews with the *Today Show* and meeting NBA greats Kobe Bryant and LeBron James—a dream for a sports fan.

That was real life for Craig Sesker '88 in August.

Sesker represented USA Wrestling for the U.S. Olympic Committee along with Gary Abbott, head of USA Wrestling's communication office, in Beijing, China, for the Summer Olympic Games.

And, as he is quick to note, the trip was much more than action on the mats. He also helped at the track and field venue and handled the U.S. men's basketball "Redeem Team" prior to the opening ceremonies.

"That was a big highlight," Sesker said. "Former presidents (George W.) Bush and (George H.W.) Bush were there to meet everyone and shook hands with all of the athletes."

Sesker was also assigned media duties at the opening and closing ceremonies. As a fan, he saw Usain Bolt set the world record in the 100-meter dash and Michael Phelps swim a preliminary trial.

However, Sesker's main focus of wrestling developed into something special.

"It was an incredible opportunity," he said. "I never dreamt as a kid growing up in Tipton, Iowa, that I would end up covering the Olympic Games in Communist China, of all places. I had never traveled outside of the U.S.—or wanted to—until I joined USA Wrestling's communications office. Now, it is a high point of the year when the world championships come up on the calendar. It's been great to see the world through this vantage point."

The first of Sesker's two biggest Olympic wrestling highlights was a trip to the Great Wall of China. The U.S. Greco-Roman team and former gold medalist Rulon Gardner were on the bus.

Gardner, a color commentator for NBC, wrestled a team member on the Wall. *The New York Times*, an Italian newspaper, *Sports Illustrated* and NBC rode along and developed the trip into a large story.

Sesker's second major highlight came in official competition duty. He had no idea what lay ahead with the gold medal experience of Henry Cejudo, the youngest USA wrestling Olympic champion ever.

"The media has always paid attention to wrestling on the Olympic level, but it has rarely been, in my opinion, to the degree of what they did in Beijing," he said. "However, with the story that Henry brought to America of a young man whose parents were immigrants, seeking a better life, going on to win the gold. ... It was a very compelling story that the national and international media were interested in telling. It was great exposure for our sport."

> *"I never dreamt as a kid growing up in Tipton, Iowa, that I would end up covering the Olympic Games."*
>
> – Craig Sesker '88

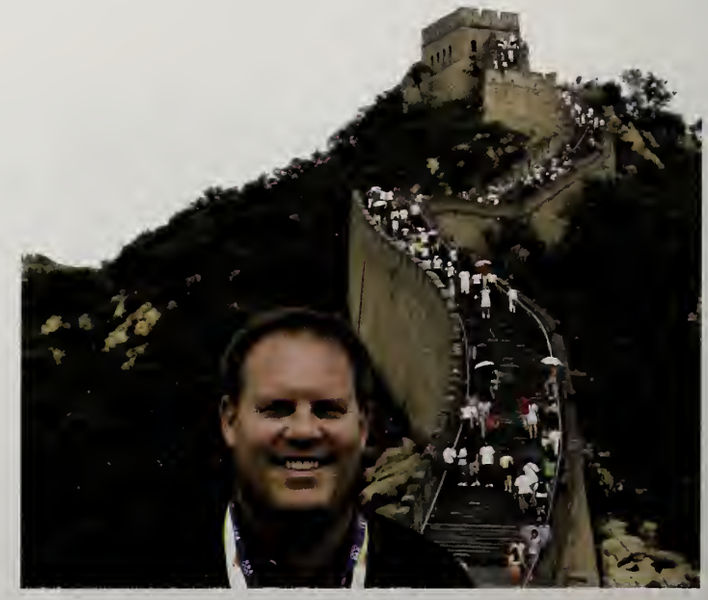
And the best part of the Cejudo gold medal evening? Becoming the "flower boy."

"We were walking off the mat into the mixed zone area doing so many interviews, and cameras were going off all around us. Henry had received a U.S. flag from a fan after the match and had waved it when he was running around the mat," Sesker said. "So, after that, he got some flowers. He turned to me and said 'Hey, can you take these?' I said, 'Me, take your flowers?' and he said 'Yes, c'mon, please.' So I took them. An NBC camera caught me on the corner of their shot. Of course, all of my friends and family saw that and I got so many texts and e-mails being called the 'flower boy.'

"It was all worth it that night, though," he added. "We were on the *Today Show*. Later, the *Tonight Show* booked us. We went to CBS' Beijing studio and did an interview with Harry Smith for the *Early Morning Show*. It was like that all day."

Sesker's wrestling work is also on a large-scale size in the United States. He helps run one of the nation's top Web sites, The Mat.com, and took over the editing duties of *USA Wrestler*, among the highest subscription publications on the sport, in January.

"Gary brought me on to be a writer," he said. "I've got to give Wartburg a large amount of credit (for that chance). (Dr. Robert) Gremmels (professor emeritus of journalism) was a great adviser and mentor, as was his son, Jon. That experience helped lead to this opportunity."



Craig Sesker poses in front of the Great Wall during his experience at the Beijing Olympics.

Photo submitted.

Peasley, Harves enjoying sports media successes

Mike Peasley '96 will tell anyone that Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones hasn't met a reporter he doesn't like.

He should know. He recently landed a job at ESPN Radio in Dallas covering the Cowboys and the Dallas Mavericks of the National Basketball Association.

He has experienced Jones' genial treatment of the press firsthand.

"He will literally stand in the middle of the locker room while players and coaches are being interviewed and keep on talking to us," Peasley said.

Peasley landed his spot in the Dallas market through a friend.

"My wife, Kelly, knew a producer at the station and got us talking," he said. "I had been working at KCAU-TV in Sioux City, Iowa, and at the Spencer radio station before that. I really wanted to try a larger market, so I gave Dallas a shot."

Eleven months after meeting the producer, he got his chance to cover the Cowboys. He has worked with Jones; National Football League Hall of Famer Michael Irvin, who has his own show at Mike's station; Tony Romo; Terrell "TO" Owens and many others. This led to an offer to cover another high-profile owner and his team, Mark Cuban and the Mavericks.

"I basically cover the practices and games for the station," Peasley said. "My Cowboys job is a little different. I provide our station with three updates per hour and then do post-game work in the locker room."

Peasley isn't the only former Wartburg communication arts alumnus having success in a big sports market. As an ESPN producer, Scott Harves '97 may have landed the biggest spot of them all—at least in a fan's eyes.

It all came about due to persistence, said Harves.

"I sent a resume in when I saw an opening and called the person about three to four times a week," he said. "I think he finally got tired enough of me, and ESPN asked me to come interview for the position."

Harves' humble start quickly turned to bigger things. In 2007, he became lead producer for ESPN's afternoon *College Football Live* show. Beginning in 2000, he was part of feature stories that ranged from covering collegiate championship games to a Super Bowl. He also handled the network's *Images of the Century* piece in 1999.

"It's a great spot for me. I love sports," he said. "It's great working with so many talented professional people. They know about my background at Wartburg, too."

So much so that Rece Davis, *College Football Live's* host, made mention of Harves on air, even if not by name.

"When I saw that we were going to mention the NCAA Division III football playoffs in a coming show, I told him he had better make note of the Knights," Harves said. "He did, too, saying that Wartburg, of which our producer is an alumnus, advanced to the national quarterfinals. It was pretty cool."

If you cover "America's Team", this is the view that you would see during game day from the Texas Stadium press box. Venerable Texas Stadium closed its doors at the end the 2008 season, so the Cowboys could move into their new home for the 2009 season.

Wartburg head football coach Rick Willis visits with former head coach Norm Johansen during the 50th anniversary celebration of the 1958 Iowa Conference champions in October.

Former women's basketball honorable mention All-American and two-time all-Iowa Conference player Kim Grimm '94 was recognized this fall for her accomplishments at Waldorf College. She attended the Forest City school before coming to Waverly prior to 1992-93. Her parents are shown above with members of Waldorf's athletic department and the Hall of Fame committee along with Grimm's Hall of Fame plaque.

Justin Vetter '09 brings the ball down into the end zone for the game-winning touchdown Nov. 29 during the Knights' 30-28 NCAA Division III playoff win over Monmouth College of Illinois.

Worth Repeating

Worth Repeating

Everybody

has a right to public trust resources, and nobody has a right to (damage) those resources. This is ancient law.

– Robert F. Kennedy Jr. explaining the roots of his personal vocation at the Graven Award Convocation Jan. 29

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. received the 2009 Graven Award and was on campus as part of the Commission on Mission Service Task Force symposia events.

I think the thing

that really hit me, coming from a small community—a country boy if you will—was, 'Boy do I have freedom. What am I going to do with it?' College gave me some grounding because it provided a sense of guidance. I was nurtured and mentored by faculty, staff (and) caring roommates; by attending chapel and convocations where I heard a variety of speakers impart their newfound wisdom and learning; and opportunities to develop individual relationships in a whole new way and living in a room with someone who wasn't your brother. What that gave me was the sense that there was a community outside Wartburg College.

– Ed Scharlau '61 of Austin, Texas, a retired executive for 3M Corporation, speaking at the Oct. 21 Leadership Symposium

From left: Karen Thalacker '88, Peggy Moser Flathmann '76, Ed Scharlau '61 and Erwin "Erv" Janssen '58 visited a leadership class while on campus for an alumni leadership panel. Their visit was coordinated by the Commission on Mission Leadership Task Force.

The first thing

to think about when developing your leadership skills is to lead by example. How are you behaving? Are you behaving in a way that people will look to you for guidance? You can't ask things of other people that you really aren't willing to do yourself. This isn't anything that needs to be announced to anyone; it's the way you live everyday, and when a situation comes up, you should be honored if people would look at you and think, 'What's she doing?' or 'How is he reacting to that?'

– Karen Thalacker '88 of Waverly, Iowa, an attorney with Gallagher, Langlas and Gallagher and children's book author, speaking at the Oct. 21 Leadership Symposium

It was

the non-science courses (I took at Wartburg) that, in retrospect, … have really had the most impact on me at this point. Sociology, … history, … English and writing. The co-curricular activities provided the real laboratory for leadership development, especially some student government experiences.

– Dr. Erwin "Erv" Janssen '58 of Tulsa, Okla., a retired psychiatrist, speaking at the Oct. 21 Leadership Symposium

Photo by Bailey Meiklejohn '11, Karris Golden

When we stick

together, we cannot be broken. The first line (from the song *They'll Know We are Christians*) is 'We are One in the Spirit.' I can't fail, because the Rasmussens are looking out for me. And the Rasmussen's can't be broken, because St. Paul's Lutheran is watching out for them. And St. Paul's Lutheran can't fail, because Wartburg College is looking out for them. And on it goes.

– **Leslie Hunter, Holy Family Lutheran Church in Chicago, Ill., speaking Jan. 20 as part of Wartburg's Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance. Prior to speaking, he demonstrated how easy it is to break one pencil. He then showed that a group of pencils could not be broken.**

Leslie Hunter, right, chats with Esther Kivinda '11 of Rift Valley, Kenya, and Bernard Holland, security officer, during his visit to Wartburg.

Faith is the foundation.

Here at Wartburg, we don't have to make excuses about that. But I think that we live in a time—at least in the world of education—that we need to be thinking about change, because we can't be the same. We need to look for leaders who have a vision and will set a new stage for education in the 21st century. But for us to have faith as the foundation is incredibly important. We've gone from servant leadership to transformation leadership to now who knows what the 21st century is going to bring us.

– **Peggy Moser Flathmann '76, director of educational services in Fridley, Minn., speaking at the Oct. 21 Leadership Symposium**

An open letter to the Wartburg community:

Disaster can occur at anytime. This past year flooding and damage occurred on a mass scale in Iowa and other Midwestern states.

(In August,) Hurricane Gustav impacted eastern Texas and Louisiana. (In September,) the Gulf Coast of Texas, where I live, as well as several other states had billions of dollars of damage occur due to Hurricane Ike.

As Wartburg alumni and as human beings, we have a great tendency to want to help our communities. Wartburg asked how they may be of assistance, and I am asking that this note be passed on to you.

While collecting food, water and supplies may make one feel good about doing something for the victims of the aforementioned disasters, your efforts will be better coordinated and items distributed if you contribute to the American Red Cross, http://www.redcross.org/ or 1-800-RED-CROSS. Here is how your donations help others:

- $25 can provide five blankets at an emergency shelter
- $75 covers a doctor's visit for an individual injured in a disaster
- $350 provides emergency food and shelter
- $2,500 deploys one emergency response vehicle and drivers (including housing and meals for drivers)
- $3,200 is the average yearly maintenance and fuel cost for one emergency response vehicle

Another way to help is to go through your closets, take out those items that you don't wear often, if at all, and the clothing that doesn't fit and donate them to Goodwill, the Salvation Army or similar local charity.

Give blood. Blood is always in short supply, especially if it is a rare type.

Lastly, plan ahead. I have been helping as part of the U.S. Coast Guard post-Hurricane Ike efforts, and there have been countless people who did not stock up on food, water, ice, baby formula, diapers, flashlights, batteries, etc., beforehand. You also can purchase premade disaster preparedness kits from the Red Cross and at retailers like Target. For a list of items to keep on hand, go to http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/

A natural disaster can occur at anytime and being prepared will be helpful to you and your family when and if it does occur.

Have a plan that includes what you will do if you are separated during a tornado, flood, earthquake, etc. That should include a contact person outside your area who you will contact to let them know of your status.

God's blessings to all of you,
Gary T. Johnson '86
Division 6 Staff Officer
District 8 Coast Region
Air Station
Houston, Texas
U.S. Coast Guard (Auxiliary)

The U.S. Coast Guard deployed Gary Johnson '86, above, to help in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, which hit the Texas Gulf Coast in September. This photo shows him directing victims to the Point of Distribution for water, food and ice. Johnson also assisted during Hurricane Katrina and other natural disasters.

KNIGHTS IN THE NEWS

1945
The Rev. **HAROLD** and **DOROTHY HELMBRECHT '46 BROKERING**, Windsor, Colo., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June.

1954
BOB KEISTER, Winona, Minn., was honored as a Distinguished Faculty at Winona State University. He retired from Winona State University in 1993.

BETTY HARTMANN LAU, Readlyn, Iowa, was the August employee of the month at the Denver Sunset Nursing Home, Denver.

1958
The Rev. **DAVID KRUGER**, Tampa, Fla., is a part-time pastor with Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church, New Port Richey.

1963
The Rev. **MIKE SHERER**, Waverly, Iowa, received the *Metro Lutheran* newspaper "Gold Pen Award" in October. Copies of Mike's *St. Michael Trilogy* have been donated to the Wartburg College Library.

1965
MICHAEL BECKER, Orlando, Fla., retired as the executive director of Devereux Florida, the state's largest nonprofit provider of behavioral health services for children. During his tenure, Devereux increased from a $32 million organization to more than $90 million, with services for more than 11,000 children and their families. A new Michael C. Becker Activity Center has been names in his honor.

SUSAN LARSON NELSON, Bloomington, Minn., retired in 2008 as a Northwest Airlines flight attendant. She is continuing in the industry as a referring travel agent.

1966
OREN SWENSON, Shawnee, Okla., retired Aug. 1 from Tinker Air Force Base after 42 years with the U.S. Air Force, including four years of active duty. He retired from the Air Force Reserves in 1993.

1967
MARLENE KASEMEIER BALLARD, Country Club Hills, Ill., retired June 2 after 38 years of teaching with District 170, Chicago Heights. She retired with 41 years of total service in education.

1968
The Rev. **CHRISTINE GREBNER STIENSTRA**, Dixon, Ill., retired from full-time ministry Aug. 31. She remains an assistant to the bishop in the Northern Illinois Synod.

1969
Homecoming Reunion Oct. 15-18
RICH GAARD, Decorah, Iowa, was chosen 2008 National Golf Coach of the Year by the National Coaches Association and the National Federation of Coaches. He is the Decorah High School boys' golf coach and has coached the Vikings for 37 years.

1970
DARLENE MEISTER VOELTZ, Rochester, Minn., was selected to be a Fulbright scholar for the Summer

Seminar, "The Delicate Balance Between Traditional Identity and Modernization in Morocco." Fifteen U.S. scholars studied and traveled in Morocco for six weeks in July and August of 2008.

1975
BARB ZELLE ANDERSON, Waverly, Iowa, retired in May after 33 years teaching special needs students. The last 31 years were with Area Education Agency 267.

ELISABETH KELLOGG, Minneapolis, Minn., is a software engineer with APi Outsourcing, Mendota Heights. She also serves on the North American Board of Directors of Lutherans Concerned and serves in the Reconciling in Christ Ministry.

1977
The Rev. **MICHAEL BURK**, Iowa City, Iowa, was appointed to the Luther College Board of Regents, Decorah. He will serve on the board through 2010.

DEBORAH MOLSTAD KELLOGG, Edina, Minn., received tenure in May 2008 as German professor at Normandale Community College, Bloomington. In spring 2008, she received her ninth Golden Apple Award in seven years from Phi Theta Kappa, the international student honor society for two-year colleges, for excellence in teaching.

1979
Homecoming Reunion Oct. 15-18
MARTHA MENSINK OSKVIG, Milford, Iowa, was recognized in September at the National Federation of Press Women's fall convention as a 30-year member.

1980
GLENDA BAUGH-JOHNSON, Chicago, Ill., was a volunteer with the Obama/Biden campaign.

SHARON HOFFMAN CORRIGAN, Sparta, N.J., is vice president for retail operations, Jaguar North America.

1981
The Rev. **CLAIRE BEUTLER-CRUISE**, Milwaukee, Wis., was granted Privilege of Call by the Wisconsin Southeast Association United Church of Christ. She accepted a call as interim minister at First Congregational UCC, Hartland.

Dr. **TONY FRANK**, Loveland, Colo., is interim president with Colorado State University, Fort Collins.

1982
KATHRYN BOSTIC and Stan Tucker, Lubbock, Texas, were married Dec. 22, 2007. Kathryn teaches special education at Coronado High School.

SUE FREET and Alan Hughes, Vinton, Iowa, were married Nov. 1.

1983
CARLENE SCHIPPER BERGESON, Ackley, Iowa, is the math and business teacher and girls' golf coach with the Hampton-Dumont Community School District, Hampton. She was selected by the Iowa Girls' Coaches Association as Coach of the Year for Class 2A. Carlene's golf team went undefeated with a record of 37-0. It won its conference and placed first in the State Class 2A golf meet.

ERIC and **BRENDA SENS MAY**, Monticello, Iowa, announce the adoption of Avalon Grace, 4, and Bethany Avianna, 2. They join Rachel, 21, Rebeckah, 20, Hannah, 16, and Leah, 15.

JANE RANS RAMTHUN, Nevada, Iowa, is the chief financial officer with the Story County Medical Center.

1984
Homecoming Reunion Oct. 15-18
MELANIE KVAMME and Tony Rishe, Rocklin, Calif., were married Sept. 20.

1987
Dr. **AMY FREY**, Chicago, Ill., is a surgical pathology fellow at the University of Illinois.

REBECCA FOX RACHUY, Sioux Rapids, Iowa, was promoted to vice president with The First National Bank of Rembrandt.

1988
The Rev. **SCOTT MEIER**, Spencer, Iowa, is the senior pastor at Bethany Lutheran Church.

1991
Gene and **DONNA ROGERS WALL**, Monticello, Iowa, announce the birth of Destiny Grace, Aug. 19. She joins Cody, 15, Shelby, 12, and Kiley, 8. Donna is a 5-8 vocal music teacher at Monticello Middle School. She earned a Master of Music degree in December 2007 at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

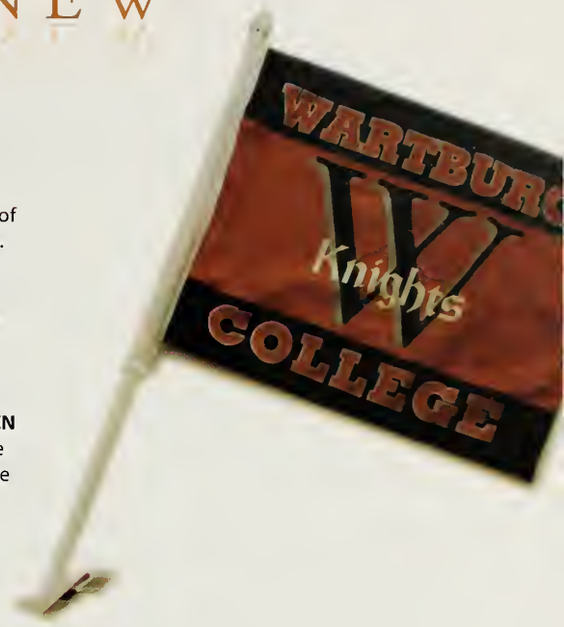
1992
ALLEN GREEN and Dara Gannon, Urbandale, Iowa, were married July 19.

1993
John and **MICHELLE KOH ANDERSON**, Chicago, Ill., announce the birth of Peyton Madeline, Aug. 26. She joins Chynna, 8.

Tom and **MOLLY THOREN SHERMAN**, Sunnyvale, Calif., announce the birth of Trey Jacob, Oct. 29. He joins Koby, 5, and Bryce, 3. In July, Molly was inducted into the Grundy Center High School Sports Hall of Fame for volleyball, basketball, softball and track.

1994
Homecoming Reunion Oct. 15-18
Chad and **CHERYL VONDEROHE PATTERSON**, Huxley, Iowa, announce the birth of Mason Daniel, March 4, 2008. He joins Mya, 6, and Ryan, 3. Cheryl is the information technology manager with Kreg Tool.

JENNY SCHULZ, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is the executive director with Kids First Law Center. She oversees two attorneys and an office manager in the Kids First Law Center, which represents children in high-conflict divorce, custody and domestic violence cases between parents.



TIM and **JENNIFER ARBUCKLE SEEGER**, Omaha, Neb., announce the birth of Claire Elizabeth, July 22. She joins Kylie, 6, and Davin, 3.

BECKY HERTENSTEIN TOMLINSON, Kaukauna, Wis., completed the Ironman Wisconsin Triathlon in Madison Sept. 7. The event includes a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike and 26.2-mile run. Becky is an application engineer in the Web site solutions department with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Appleton.

JOE WALCZYK and Linda Grigsby, Des Moines, Iowa, were married Oct. 11.

1995

DANA SCHARNHORST BRUBAKER, Altoona, Iowa, is the assistant registrar with Grand View College, Des Moines.

Todd and **LAURIE CRAVEN CHELF**, Burlington, Iowa, announce the birth of Lucas Matthew, Sept. 24. He joins AnaEliza, 15, Jonathan, 3 and Benjamin, 3.

MICHAEL EVANS and Sarah Wychor, Eagan, Minn., were married Oct. 11.

Mark and **NANCY SCHNEIDER GARSO**, Lakeville, Minn., announce the birth of Caitlyn Melissa, Aug. 13. She joins Luke, 2.

JEFF HUEGEL and Lori Freitag, Chicago, Ill., were married Oct. 11.

Matt and **SARA PECKOSH JANSSEN**, Wellsburg, Iowa, announce the birth of Samuel Peck, June 22. He joins Libby, 5, and Tommy, 3.

Ronald and **CARTINA PEPPERS MILLER**, Woodbridge, Va., announce the birth of Corey Donovan, June 9. He joins Carson, 5, and Caden, 3.

KATHRYN MILLER PILLER, Blooming Prairie, Minn., is a 7-12 special education teacher for Medford High School. She is taking emergency medical technician classes.

1996

BOB and **JENNY LENIUS BEATTY**, Independence, Iowa, announce the birth of Addison Kay, Aug. 12. She joins Marcus, 5, and Drew, 3.

MATT BREEZE, O'Fallon, Mo., is a biochemist with Monsanto in St. Louis. His wife, **MICHELLE MEYER BREEZE**, is a stay-at-home mom.

BOB DUDOLSKI, Canton, Mo., is the director of Greek life and leadership development with Culver-Stockton College.

DANIEL HEADINGTON is a vice president with Citizens State Bank, Waukon, Iowa.

MICHAEL PEASLEY, Cedar Hill, Texas, is an anchor/reporter covering the Cowboys, Mavericks, Stars and Rangers for ESPN Radio, Dallas.

NATHAN PILLER, Blooming Prairie, Minn., was promoted to assistant varsity boys basketball coach and continues to teach 7-12 art at Blooming Prairie High School.

EYVONNE LISSY WHISENANT, Virginia Beach, Va., is a new client specialist with Paychex Inc.

1997

JoLYN JENSEN BERRY, Mason City, Iowa, is an officer with Community National Bank.

JESSICA SCHULDT OU, Shell Rock, Iowa, announces the birth of Laurel Olive Schuldt, May 21. She joins Kaylie, 17.

1998

SARAH ALBERTSON-CORKERY, Cedar Falls, Iowa, ME&V director of healthcare marketing, gave healthcare marketing presentations at the 2008 Kansas City (Mo.,) Healthcare Communicators Society Annual Fall Conference in October.

MATT and **SHELLY MARSHALL '99 ARMSTRONG**, Marion, Iowa, announce the birth of Gabriel Jaren, Aug. 14. He joins Norah, 1½. Matt and Shelly released their fifth CD with the music group, The Marshalls, www.themarshallsmusic.com

ANDREA OTTERSON GADE and **CHAD GADE '99**, Tipton, Iowa, announce the birth of Alison, May 2.

JESSICA PRIES HEYING, Waverly, Iowa, is a fourth grade teacher with the Wapsie Valley School District, Fairbank.

JOANNE OTTE and Jason Millet, Chicago, Ill., were married Oct. 18.

Ben and **JENNIFER VOSS PETER,** Plainview, Minn., announce the birth of Karly Ann, May 19. She joins Kaylee, 4.

DOUG and **SHELLEY BETTEN SEDGWICK**, Waverly, Iowa, announce the birth of Ian Douglas, May 23. He joins Sophie, 4.

CARRIE LAWTON YOUDE and **STEVEN YOUDE '00**, Concord, Calif., announce the birth of Sydney Claire, Aug. 12. She joins Allyson, 3.

1999

Homecoming Reunion Oct. 15-18

GREG BERRY, Mason City, Iowa, is promoted to news director with KIMT-TV.

NEVIN and **TAMI MAKI CAVANAUGH**, Urbandale, Iowa, announce the birth of Samantha Jane, Sept. 23.

DAWN DIGMANN and Mike Arnold, Van Horne, Iowa, were married Oct. 18. Dawn earned a Master of Education degree in collaborative teaching and learning in December 2007 from Graceland University, Lamoni. She teaches math and is varsity track coach for the Benton Community Schools.

LEAH WOODARD KUNTZ, Longmont, Colo., is a third grade teacher at Loma Linda Elementary.

SUZANNE MORY and John Hull, Pleasant Hill, Iowa, were married Nov. 1, 2008.

Vincent and **RUTHIE SCHENTZEL SCHNEIDER**, Cedar, Minn., announce the birth of Sawyer Paul, Oct. 26, 2008. He joins Eliza, 4. Ruthie is a zookeeper with the Como Zoo, St. Paul.

LEAH STUMME and Matthew Frost, Waterloo, Iowa, were married Sept. 26, 2008. Leah is the Clinique counter manager with Younkers, Cedar Falls.

2000

BRIAN COLE, Manchester, Iowa, is the 6-8 grade band and assistant high school band teacher with the West Delaware County Community School District.

JENNIFER HELPER, La Crosse, Wis., teaches at Central High School and serves as the coordinator for LaCrossroads High School, the alternative program located at Central.

MIKE and **SARAH RECKER PEAKIN**, Bettendorf, Iowa, announce the birth of Kayla Ann, April 9, 2008. She joins Leah, 2½. Mike is dean of students/ assistant athletic director with Pleasant Valley Junior High. Sarah is the principal secretary with Bettendorf High School.

JEFF STEFFENS, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is an attorney with Simmons, Perrine, Moyer & Bergman, PLC, the third largest law firm in the state with more than 60 lawyers.

Jason and **MELISSA HADEN STELL**, Spencer, Iowa, announce the birth of Haden Thomas, Sept. 12, 2008. He joins Aubrie, 3.

Daniel and **NICOLE WILLIAMS STOKES**, Ames, Iowa, announce the birth Destiny Nicole, Sept. 11, 2008.

Are you a leader?

How did leadership experiences from your Wartburg days influence your professional and/or personal life? Let us know at alumni@wartburg.edu.

FEEDBACK

CHRIS and Jessica **STRINMOEN**, Kasson, Minn., announce the birth of Jada Reese, Sept. 26, 2008.

AMY WAGNER and **STEVE SCHUSTER '01**, Chicago, Ill., were married Sept. 6, 2008.

ERIN SANDQUIST WENDT, Cambridge, Iowa, earned a masters degree in public administration in August 2007 from Drake University, Des Moines. She works in public/community relations with Blank Children's Hospital, Des Moines.

2001

Keith and **SHALENE BOGARDUS BARATTA**, Omaha, Neb., announce the birth of Andrew Carl, Sept. 11, 2008.

AARON BUZZA, Waterloo, Iowa, was recognized in the *Courier's* Cedar Valley "20 under 40."

CASEY and Heidi **CORDES**, Marion, Iowa, announce the birth of Kyra June, Sept. 14, 2006. Casey is a sales manager in the Iowa City market with Pepsi, Cedar Rapids.

JENNI DONOHUE, Roland, Iowa, is the executive director of regional operations with McFarland Clinic, Ames.

Doug and **ALLISON SCHULTZ FRAZELL**, West Des Moines, Iowa, announce the birth of Elizabeth Ann, Sept. 27, 2008. She joins Noah, 3, and Luke, 1.

Eric and **ANGELA PETERS HAND**, Lincoln, Neb., announce the birth of Tyler Douglas, Nov. 30, 2008.

Evan and **MANDY SCHALLER JASPER**, Carol Stream, Ill., announce the birth of Jenna Grace, Sept. 4, 2008.

Don and **AMY DREES JOHNSON**, Marion, Iowa, announce the birth of Carie Leigh, Sept. 18, 2008. She joins Emrie, 1½.

ANNE KELLY LAPPE, Normal, Ill., is an internal auditor at the corporate headquarters for State Farm Insurance Company.

REBECCA MARTIN and the Rev. Matthew Poock, Davenport, Iowa, were married Aug. 30, 2008. Becca is the community engagement coordinator/Augie choice director at Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill.

JEFFREY MENNEN and Kelli Egan, Des Moines, Iowa, were married June 21, 2008.

PATRICK and **COREY ARNDT '03 MORRISON**, Urbandale, Iowa, announce the birth of Logan Charles, Oct. 2, 2008.

AMY NEAL and Ryan Kay, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, were married Aug. 8, 2008.

Marc and **EMILY KIMM PENNINGTON**, Wellman, Iowa, announce the birth of Bowen Lee, Sept. 11, 2008. He joins Jack, 5, and Nora, 2. Emily is a fifth grade teacher with the Mid-Prairie School District, Kalona.

SARAH SPELTZ, Boston, Mass., works in the office of the university marshal with Harvard University, Cambridge.

Todd and **NICOLE FUCHSEN THOMAS**, Cedar Falls, Iowa, announce the birth of Ella Hope, Oct. 16, 2008. She joins Noel, 4, and Natalie, 2½.

AMITY LEE WAGNER and **JOHN WAGNER '02**, Des Moines, Iowa, announce the birth of Landry Kaye, Oct. 8, 2008. She joins Gabe, 3½.

2002

Matt and **HEIDI TIEDT BIRD**, Clarinda, Iowa, announce the birth of Creighton Michael, Aug. 15, 2008.

Duane and **SARAH BRUCE BOUSKA**, Mason City, Iowa, announce the birth of Korbin James, Nov. 13, 2008. He joins Nevaeh, 2½.

DAN and **SARAH TUTTLE '04 COOPER**, Tripoli, Iowa, announce the birth of Lillian Grace, March 19, 2007. Sarah is the 7-12 TAG facilitator with the Waverly-Shell Rock School District, Waverly.

JACKIE DODD and Matt Moyer, Waterloo, Iowa, were married Oct. 25, 2008.

BRAD HOFER and Cynthia Kuhn, West Des Moines, Iowa, were married July 26, 2008.

STACY KELLY, New London, Conn., was appointed associate commissioner of the NCAA Division II Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC). The announcement was made by CACC Commissioner Dan Mara.

RANDY and Megan **SCHUMACHER**, Altoona, Iowa, announce the birth of Daniel Joseph, Oct. 4, 2008. He joins Alex, 2. Randy is a photojournalist with WHO-TV, Des Moines. In October 2008, he won a prestigious regional Emmy Award from the Upper Midwest Chapter of the National Television Academy in the "Investigative Series" category.

JASON and Dana **SULLIVAN**, Denver, Iowa, announce the birth of Abe Daniel. He joins Jude, 2.

KnightNet

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12 sets of twins call Wartburg 'home'

In *The Orange*, you can read this story by Emily Schmitt '11, which focuses on the 12 sets of twins currently attending Wartburg.

Designed by Spencer Albers '10 of Platteville, Wis., and Communication and Marketing staff members, *The Orange* is an online site featuring news and sports information. The staff hopes the site will help inform alumni, parents and friends of what goes on at Wartburg.

The Orange offers original stories, event information, photos, video galleries, sports scores, columns by staff and faculty and a host of other items of interest.

Those pictured include Maria '11 and Meghann '11 Baumann of Marion, Iowa; Heidi '10 and Mindy '10 Bursch of Owatonna, Minn.; Daina '10 and Deena '10 Deery of Cedar Falls, Iowa; Kevin '12 and Kyle '12 Huss of Ashton, Iowa; Amanda '10 and Jennifer Kuiken '10 of Fairfield, Iowa; Nevada '12 and Skye '12 Morrison of Chicago, Ill.; Brett '12 and Ryan '12 Mulkey of Mason City, Iowa; Robin '09 and Ellie '09 Petersen of Des Plaines, Ill.; Andrew '12 and Timothy '12 Reisner of Powell, Wyo.; and Charles '12 and Christopher '12 Timms of Waterloo, Iowa. Those not pictured are Raeann '11 and Rebecca '11 Ritland of Zearing, Iowa, and Pam '09 and Trish '09 Rodgers of Garwin, Iowa.

Check the full story and more pictures of the twins at *info.wartburg.edu/TheOrange.*

NATHAN and **EMILY STRUMPEL WORDEN,** Seattle, Wash., announce the birth of Dominic, May 2006.

2003

KATIE ALPERS and John Stalter, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, were married Sept. 13, 2008.

JAIME SCHMIDT DRINGENBURG, Brookfield, Wis., teaches elementary general music at Woodfield Elementary with the Waterford Graded School District.

ALLIE ERGANG, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, is teaching at the Discovery School, an international school.

LeROY GARDNER III, Middletown, R.I., was promoted from Ensign (O-1) to Lieutenant Junior Grade (O-2).

DAN GRIFFIN and Diana Janis, Lakewood, Colo., were married Sept. 28, 2008.

POLLY VAN ALSTINE and Wayne Dusek, Roberts, Wis., were married Sept. 22, 2007. Polly is a mental health counselor with South Metro Human Services, St. Paul, Minn.

ABRIEL YOUNG and Matt Dixon, Scottsdale, Ariz., were married Sept. 26, 2008.

Dr. **LAURA ZIETLOW** and Mark Bohrer, St. Louis Park, Mo., were married Aug. 9, 2008. Laura completed her cancer research in May 2008 from the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Neb.

2004

Homecoming Reunion Oct. 15-18

SONNY and **AMY NICKLAY ALVAREZ**, Walcott, Iowa, announce the birth of Bailey, Dec. 18, 2007.

MAGGIE GIBNEY ATKINSON, Maquoketa, Iowa, is the part-time director of high school ministries with First Lutheran Church.

MEG HEINITZ CAMBRONNE, Mounds View, Minn., is a marketing coordinator with Cardiovascular Systems, Inc., New Brighton.

MARY CHRISTOPHERSON and Aaron Tank, Hiawatha, Iowa, were married July 26, 2008.

TIM and **CARRIE CORPSTEIN '06 GEARHART**, Independence, Iowa, announce the birth of Grace Elizabeth, Aug. 27, 2008.

CALEB KLEIN and Kara DeShaw, Pleasantville, Iowa, were married Aug. 9, 2008.

FEEDBACK

Do you want to share valuable lessons?

What are the most lasting lessons you learned in courses and co-curricular activities at Wartburg? We'd love to hear--and share--your stories! Send yours to alumni@wartburg.edu.

TRAVIS KOHL, Littleton, Colo., is an office manager/bookkeeper with Rocky Mountain Mail Services. He serves as a soccer instructor on the weekends for the Southwest Suburban Parks and Recreation Division.

SARA NYHUS and Jeff Penning, Clear Lake, Iowa, were married Sept. 13, 2008.

RENEE BORCHERT and Brandon Robison, Wauwatosa, Wis., were married June 21, 2008.

JONATHAN and **MARA OSTERMEIER '06 SCHACK**, Strawberry Point, Iowa, announce the birth of Caleb, Oct. 18, 2008.

NICOLE SCHMIDT and Ed Cox, Des Moines, Iowa, were married Oct. 11, 2008. Nicole graduated in May 2009 from Drake University Law School.

CHRISTA ZIESMAN and Jon Killgore, Kentwood, Mich., were married Aug. 20, 2005. They announce the birth of Christopher, May 17, 2005.

2005

EMILY SUCHY CLARKSON and **SETH CLARKSON '06**, Nora Springs, Iowa, announce the birth of Eden Elizabeth, Sept. 9, 2008.

BRAD CULBERTSON, Algona, Iowa, is the program director with the Algona YMCA and owner of Culbertson Yellow Labs.

EMILY FRIEDMAN, Lawrence, Kan., passed the Kansas bar and is an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Kansas.

CHRISTINA HANSEN and Adam Rodriguez, Haslet, Texas, were married June 28, 2008. Christina teaches middle school social studies, Saginaw.

SHELLY MATTHIAS and Justin Derner, Waverly, Iowa, were married Sept. 26, 2008.

BETH NEAL, Waterloo, Iowa, is a marketing assistant with *Courier Communications*.

TERESE OTT, Algona, Iowa, is an accountant with Central Financial Group.

Honorary degree recipient John Ylvisaker, left, performed some of his pieces at December Commencement. He is shown with violinist Amy Anderson.

Wartburg honors composer

Wartburg presented an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to renowned composer John Ylvisaker during winter Commencement on Dec. 14.

Wartburg Interim President William E. Hamm '66 conferred the degree.

Ylvisaker is a composer, arranger and writer who is perhaps best known for the hymn *Borning Cry*, which was performed during Christmas with Wartburg in 2006. He performs and provides worship leadership at assemblies, conferences and gatherings. Ylvisaker has composed much of the music for *Lutheran Vespers* radio broadcasts and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) videos and events. He holds copyrights for over 1,000 songs.

His most recent book, *Borning Cry*, provides 900 songs on biblical texts. It contains solos, anthems, ballads, liturgical songs, children's songs, carols and other compositions. The book includes 120 of Ylvisaker's original compositions as well as songs written to popular tunes from many countries.

Ylvisaker has taught high school music and directed church choirs. He has been the producer of *SCAN*, an award-winning weekly radio program sponsored by the ELCA.

Ylvisaker graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn., an ELCA-affiliated school and sister institution to Wartburg. He lives in Waverly near the campus and is a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

ADAM PIRKL and **STEFANIE HILL**, Des Moines, Iowa, were married Aug. 9, 2008.

KATHRYN POWELL and **SCOTT CROSS '06**, Des Moines, Iowa, were married Aug. 31, 2008. Scott qualified in Oct. 2008 at the Des Moines Marathon and will run in the Boston Marathon, April 20, 2009.

BETHANY SCHNEBBE and Scott Weber, Cedar Falls, Iowa, were married Aug. 23, 2008.

CONOR SIMCOX and Kristin Elomaa, Brighton, Colo., were married June 26, 2008. Conor is an admission counselor with Fort Lewis College. He is pursuing a school counseling graduate degree at the University of Northern Colorado.

NATHAN SPECHT and **SARAH CORPSTEIN**, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, were married Sept. 27, 2008. Nathan is a personal trainer with Aspen. Sarah is with Mailing Services, Inc.

CHRIS and **ERIN MEYER TRIPOLINO**, Cedar Falls, Iowa, announce the birth of Shiloh Elizabeth, Aug. 4, 2008.

ELIZABETH HALBUR WILKINS, Grimes, Iowa, is a K-1 grade music teacher with the Johnston Community School District, Johnston.

2006

KEVIN AULT and **ANDREA SCHILTZ '07**, Fort Dodge, Iowa, were married Aug. 2, 2008.

JULIE BROWN and Lee Marbach, West Des Moines, Iowa, were married Oct. 11, 2008.

Greg and **STEPHANIE SCHWARTZ ENNIS**, Greenfield, Iowa, announce the birth of Miriel Anne, July 18, 2008.

SCOTT HILL, Evanston, Ill., is a corporate accountant with Aldridge Electric, Inc., Libertyville.

NICHOLAS KRAY and Kimberly Gladson, Mission, Kan., were married July 19, 2008.

JOSH LEE and **ELIZABETH BURNS**, Chicago, Ill., were married June 9, 2007.

KURT LISKE and Chelsea Newmeister, Bettendorf, Iowa, were married Sept. 20, 2008.

KIMBERLY MACKEY and **CORY GRAVEN '07**, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, were married July 11, 2008.

JENNIFER MUHL and Matt Heitland, Coralville, Iowa, were married Oct. 25, 2008.

JAKE RAPP and **ANGELA KORDAHL RAPP** are with the ELCA's Young Adult in Global Mission Program, Argentina.

BRIDGET STEERE and Adam Bollman, Skokie, Ill., were married Aug. 9, 2008. Bridget is a third-year student at Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago.

AMANDA WEISS and Luke Krause, Atlantic, Iowa, were married Sept. 27, 2008.

2007

KIRA ELLIOTT is with Amity International teaching English, China.

Photo by Jolesch Photography

ELLIOT ENGH and **KATELYN HEMINGSON**, Gilbert, Iowa, were married Sept. 20, 2008, in the Wartburg Chapel.

JONATHON GREGG, Hiawatha, Iowa, is a reporter/photographer with KCRG-TV9, Cedar Rapids.

BLAKE LAHMANN and Jesse Carolan, Cedar Falls, Iowa, were married Oct. 4, 2008.

BRYAN McCARTY, Denver, Colo., local copywriter with EdgeCore Advertising, and director Joe Hahn won a Silver Award in the 2008 Create Awards competition with the entry, McCarty Dietz Wedding Invite, in the Advertising/Art Direction and Special Event, Invitation category.

ZACH PARHAM and **BRIANNA JOHNSON**, Anamosa, Iowa, were married July 12, 2008.

JULIE PHILIPP and John Schmitz, Greeley, Iowa, were married Aug. 9, 2008.

ANDREW SALVATERRA and Amy DeJardin, Eau Claire, Wis., were married June 21, 2008, in the Wartburg Chapel.

LYNNEA WALKER is with Amity International teaching English, China.

BRIANNA ZEIGLER is in the Peace Corps, Tanzania.

2008

LUKE ALBERT, Roanoke, Texas, is a business manager with Kiewit Texas Construction Company L.P., Forth Worth.

KURT BAKULA, Waverly, Iowa, is second assistant manager with Hy-Vee.

AMANDA BARKEMA, Galesburg, Ill., is the head men's/women's tennis coach with Knox College.

JARED BARNES, Plymouth, Iowa, is the 5-12 grade band director with Newman Catholic School System, Mason City.

JESSICA BATES, Waverly, Iowa, is a court and medical advocate with the Cedar Valley Friends of the Family.

LISA COX BELL, Tipton, Iowa, is teaching 6-8 SCI (Special Class with Integration) with the Tipton Community School District.

BRANDON BIRK, Huxley, Iowa, is a research associate with New Link Genetics, Ames.

ERIC BRUHN, Cylinder, Iowa, is a grain buyer with Poet Biorefinery, Emmetsburg.

Students' college decision aided by Wartburg's ties to Colorado

by Emily Schmitt '11

Two Colorado men have made choosing Wartburg easier for several Colorado high school students.

They, along with other Colorado alumni, have helped students from their state discover what Wartburg has to offer.

Paul Johnson and Dr. Philip Moeller '58, both of Aurora, drove 12 hours from Denver to Waverly, to show prospective students the college and town in person.

"It's a neat experience. They have a chance to go to a class, sit in on a practice and get to know campus," said Moeller, a guidance counselor at Eagle Crest High School in Centennial, Colo.

Moeller and other alumni began offering transportation to Wartburg for Colorado students more than 20 years ago.

"We were hoping to get something worked out so Colorado kids could actually see the campus," Moeller said.

He still offers the opportunity to students. Two years ago, Johnson began making the trip with Moeller.

Although Johnson is not a Wartburg graduate, he has family and business connections with the college. His wife's family includes Wartburg alumni, and he works for The Publishing House, which offers internships to Wartburg West students.

"I'm a big believer in a small-town campus," Johnson said.

In 2007, Moeller and Johnson drove a group of seven prospective students to Wartburg. After the visit, two decided to enroll and are now in their first year.

"The trip was one of the biggest determining factors in me coming to Wartburg," said Corey Mable '12 of Aurora, Colo. "It was a huge commitment from (Johnson and Moeller) to get us here."

Moeller and Johnson hope they are able to help students decide if Wartburg is a good fit for them.

"I enjoy helping guide and inspire people in their education," Johnson said.

Last fall, Johnson and Moeller planned to bring eight students to visit Wartburg, but inclement weather forced the group to return home.

Moeller said many representatives from distant colleges visit his high school, but few offer students anything beyond a viewbook.

"Wartburg is one of the only colleges that has actually offered students a chance to visit," Moeller said.

Schmitt is a communication arts major and leadership minor from Hawkeye, Iowa.

Inspired by service?

How did involvement in service activities at Wartburg impact your life after college? We'd like to know! Drop us a line at alumni@wartburg.edu.

FEEDBACK

KENDRA CHRISTENSEN, Waverly, Iowa, is an enrollment management assistant with Wartburg College.

LEIGH CHRISTENSEN, Iowa City, Iowa, is a graduate student at the University of Iowa.

KARLEE COOPER, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is a project manager – Federal EF with 2nd Story Software.

KATIE COOPER, Olathe, Kan., is an occupational therapy student at Rockhurst University, Kansas City, Mo.

JUSTIN CROUSE, Urbandale, Iowa, is a staff accountant with Kiesling Associates, West Des Moines.

MELANIE ANDERSON DANA, West Des Moines, Iowa, is a personal trainer with Prairie Life Fitness.

CODY EKLOV is a divinity student at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn.

EMILY ELLEFSON, Hinsdale, Ill., is a front desk and guest services agent with Sofitel, Chicago.

AMANDA ELLIS, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is an engineering project specialist with Rockwell Collins.

ELLEN ENGH is a graduate student at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Ill.

SALLY FERGUSON, Cedar Falls, Iowa, is a second grade teacher with the Waverly-Shell Rock Community School District, Waverly.

KELLY FLORIAN, Hawthorn Woods, Ill., is a benefits analyst with Hewitt Associates, Lincolnshire.

ALLISON FORD, Hiawatha, Iowa, is with Toyota Financial, Cedar Rapids.

KATELIN GANNON, Naperville, Ill., is a graduate student at the University of Illinois, Chicago.

HEIDI GAULKE, Shoreview, Minn., is an admissions representative with Rasmussen College, Brooklyn Park.

LUKE GIBBS and Anne Gaylor, Dubuque, Iowa, were married Aug. 2, 2008. Luke is a marketing communications specialist with CarteGraph Systems, Inc.

BLAKE GILLIS is the assistant wrestling coach with the University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, Mo. He is pursuing a master's degree in sports administration.

RYAN GRANT is a professional baseball player with the Sioux Falls Canaries, Sioux Falls, S.D.

LAURA GREVAS, Worthington, Minn., is a reporter with The Daily Globe.

ERIN GUSTITUS, Coral Springs, Fla., is a Spanish/ESOL teacher with The Sagemont Upper School, Weston.

CRYSTAL HARTKOPP, Cedar Falls, is a management trainee with Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Waterloo.

HEATHER HARVEY is a public relations associate with The Walt Disney Company, Orlando, Fla.

HEIDI HESSE, Waterloo, Iowa, is a management trainee, Enterprise Rent-A-Car.

THOMAS HOWE, Eldora, Iowa, is a high school science teacher with the Eldora-New Providence School District.

ASHLIE IMMING, Fort Dodge, Iowa, is a personal trainer with SNAP Fitness.

BROCK ITA and Amy Reed, Louisville, Ky., were married June 7, 2008. Brock is a sport administration graduate student at the University of Louisville.

BETSY JACOBSEN, Charles City, Iowa, is a preadmissions coordinator with ABCM Corporation, Hampton.

CASEY JOHNSON, Dubuque, Iowa, is an auditor with Iowa Auditor of State, Des Moines.

STEVEN KETCHUM, Chatfield, Minn., is the director of youth and education with Chatfield Lutheran Church.

MARISSA KINSETH, Fort Dodge, Iowa, is a wellness educator with Trinity Regional Medical Center.

DAVID KORDAHL, Lawrence, Kan., is a graduate student at the University of Kansas.

JODY KORDICK, Marion, Iowa, is in retail banking with Cedar Rapids Bank & Trust, Cedar Rapids.

STACY LARSON is an elementary vocal music teacher with the Mason City Community School District, Mason City, Iowa.

KATIE LeGRAND, Iowa City, Iowa, is a parent mentor with Tanager Place, Cedar Rapids.

ELIZABETH LEIER, Iowa City, Iowa, is a piano performance/pedagogy graduate student at the University of Iowa.

KATIE LIENAU, West Des Moines, Iowa, is a human resources client relationship administrator with Merit Resources, Urbandale.

STEVEN LINDSETH, Ellsworth, Iowa, is a high school history teacher with the Sioux Central School District, Sioux Rapids.

BRITTANY LUHRING, Parkersburg, Iowa, is a pharmaceutical sales representative with Daiichi Sankyo, Waterloo.

NIKKI METTLIN, Waterloo, Iowa, is a youth counselor with Four Oaks.

TIMOTHY MEYER, Apple Valley, Minn., is an administrative assistant with Northwestern Chiropractic College, Bloomington.

MALINDA GROTH MICK, Clarksville, Iowa, is employed with the Butler County Abstract Company, Allison.

LOUREY MIDDLECAMP, Somerville, Mass., is a graduate student at Boston University School of Theology, Boston.

PAIGE MUNDY-YOUNG, Iowa City, Iowa, is a graduate student at the University Iowa.

DAVID NEIL, Downs, Ill., is a secondary mathematics teacher with the U.S. Peace Corps, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

MATT NOLTE is a mapping specialist with the Pinnacle Group, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

SARAH NOLTE, Waucoma, Iowa, was awarded the Joyce Johnson Scholarship for 2008-09. She is in the doctor of physical therapy program at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

TARRA NOREM and Austin Carlson, Gilbert, Iowa, were married Aug. 2, 2008. Tarra is an assistant manager with Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Des Moines.

AMANDA SWEET OLSON, Waverly, Iowa, is an assistant manager with The Fainting Goat.

LIZ REEDSTROM, Waterloo, Iowa, is a marketing assistant with Kruger Seeds, Inc., Dike.

BRIEANN REEDY, Bettendorf, Iowa, is a chiropractic student at Palmer College of Chiropractic, Davenport.

ASHLEY RICHARDS is a survey research and methodology student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Neb.

NATALIE RICHARDSON is a library and information science student at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

Keeping the faith?

How did your years at Wartburg contribute toward your faith development? Send your comments to alumni@wartburg.edu.

ASHLEY ROGERS, Dubuque, Iowa, is an assistant volleyball and softball coach with Loras College.

SCOTT ROSER, Dubuque, Iowa, is a seminary student at Wartburg Theological Seminary.

AILEEN ROZAK, Hartford, Wis., is a first grade teacher at Lincoln Elementary School with the Hartford School District.

KATIE RYAN, Des Moines, Iowa, is a graduate student at Des Moines University.

AARON SAEUGLING, Dubuque, Iowa, is a corporate accountant with Flexsteel Industries, Inc.

TIMOTHY SCHULTZ, West Des Moines, Iowa, is a prepress technician with BCT-Midwest, Des Moines.

TIMOTHY SCHWICKERATH, Des Moines, Iowa, is a math teacher with the Carlisle Community School District, Carlisle.

AMANDA SEDLACEK, Marion, Iowa, is a high school Spanish teacher with the Independence School District, Independence.

JAMIE SHUBATT, Eden Prairie, Minn., is an assistant account executive with the Strother Communications Group, Minneapolis.

STEVE SPERFSLAGE is a QA chemist with Cargill, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

LAURA STAEBELL, Cedar Falls, Iowa, is a special education teacher with the Cedar Falls Community School District.

JENNIFER STARNER is a biochemistry student at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind.

ANDREW SWANSON, Des Moines, Iowa, is a human resource NCO with the United States Army.

BECKY URLAUB, Omaha, Neb., is a graphic designer with Dana College, Blair.

KATIE VALENTINE, Westchester, Ill., is a preschool teacher with Rogy's Learning Place, Burr Ridge.

SARAH WITTE, Davenport, Iowa, is with AmeriCorps Vista at St. Ambrose University.

COMMISSION ON MISSION

Wartburg College's Commitment to Living Out its Mission

Learning task force events to include Kenyon College president

Dr. S. Georgia Nugent

Dr. S. Georgia Nugent, president of Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, will deliver a keynote convocation address at 11:30 a.m. March 19 in Neumann Auditorium.

It is sponsored by the Learning Task Force, which is devoted to studying the college's commitment to learning in relation to its mission statement.

Nugent will address the question "Why a Liberal Arts Education for Students of the 21st Century?"

Nugent is an active scholar and highly respected leader in higher education. She is an advocate of liberal arts education and is committed to supporting faculty and students in their teaching and learning endeavors.

The Learning Task Force also will host an address by Marc Prensky at 7 p.m. March 11 in Neumann Auditorium and 11:30 a.m. March 12 in McCaskey Lyceum of Saemann Student Center. He is an internationally acclaimed writer, futurist and inventor in the fields of education, technology and learning.

Dr. Sylvia Hurtado, director of the Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California Los Angeles, will also speak as part of the Learning Task Force's events. She will speak at 11:30 a.m. March 17 in McCaskey Lyceum. She will address diversity complications for the future of teaching and learning.

The Learning Task Force's symposia will conclude at 11:30 a.m. April 7 in Neumann Auditorium with the Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship Convocation. The professor who receives the John O. Chellevold Student Award for Excellence in Teaching and Professional Service, elected by Wartburg students, will speak. Student scholarship and undergraduate research also will be recognized.

The Learning Task Force is part of Commission on Mission, Wartburg's three-year strategic planning initiative. It is an intensive study of the four pillars of the college's mission of "challenging and nuturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning." Task forces formed to study the four pillars, which are leadership, service, faith and learning. Commission on Mission is funded in part by the Saemann Foundation and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Kuckelman assembles resources to combat AIDS in Tanzania

by Brittany Feagans '10

After watching a Tanzanian woman succumb to AIDS, John Kuckelman '09 knew he must do something to fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic upon his return to the United States.

"I became pretty close to her, and it was a very hard thing for me to be a part of. It was a very powerful moment," said Kuckelman, a biochemistry major and communication arts minor from Keokuk, Iowa.

John Kuckelman '09

During his internship at the AIDS clinic at St. Mary's Hospital in Morogoro, Tanzania, Kuckelman discovered that the main thing lacking in AIDS treatment was a Cluster of Differentiation 4 (CD4) testing machine.

According to the Physician's Desk Reference, CD4 is a T-cell related glycoprotein originally discovered in human DNA cells in the 1970s. CD4 is the count that determines the level of severity of the patient's illness.

A CD4 testing machine counts the CD4 levels in the blood of HIV/AIDS patients.

"To be able to give patients the correct treatment and the proper regimen of anti-retro viral drugs, you have to know that level; otherwise you're just shooting blanks," Kuckelman explained.

CD4 testing also allows physicians to determine any underlying liver or kidney issues and adjust treatment based on specific patient needs.

CD4 machines are available in Tanzania's larger cities of Dodoma and Dar es Salaam, but getting to these places is impossible for most Tanzanians, said Kuckelman.

"Most of the people in Tanzania are rural living," he

Masaai girls in the village of Mkuyuni are pictured in their traditional dress. The Masaai believe jewelry is a way to display a woman's beauty, and these girls will soon prepare for marriage.

The choir Murani wa Yesu, which in Swahili means "Warrior of Jesus," takes traditional battle cry songs and recreates them with Christian lyrics. Kuckelman, pictured at left, was in the audience at one of their performances. When the singers noticed him mouthing the lyrics, they invited him to join them—a distinct honor.

Photos submitted

explained. "For them to even get to Morogoro is a big deal. The main problem is that Morogoro, as a place for treatment, is debilitated."

Through his research, Kuckelman estimated that 250,000 people in Morogoro could benefit from this treatment. With the addition of the CD4 machine and a buffer stock of anti-retro viral drugs (ARVs), he said even a small clinic in Morogoro would be capable of treating this quantity.

"I took trips [to Dodoma and Dar es Salaam] and saw these clinics and asked how many people they were treating," he said. "The Village of Hope Clinic in Dodoma said they were treating 150,000 HIV/AIDS victims and felt confident they had the ability to treat 200,000. That was very encouraging for me."

Another Tanzanian woman Kuckelman grew close to was able to travel to Dodoma, get CD4 testing and receive the appropriate regimen of ARVs.

"We said goodbye the day before I left," he recalled. "I had seen her after a week being on the treatment, and it was like she was a new person. She reacted so well to the drugs and was vibrant and running around, and then it kind of clicked for me."

Although he may have seven years before he can return to Tanzania as a physician, Kuckelman has an obtainable, short-term goal: get a CD4 testing machine to St. Mary's Hospital.

"I started prodding at people and looking at grants," he said. "If I can purchase this machine and get it there, then I'll feel like something is moving forward, and I'll be able to stay connected."

Thanks to help from Mary Kunkle, Wartburg director of grants and development research, a Wartburg-backed grant is in the works. Kuckelman credits her and a number of others for helping make this dream a reality, starting with Tim Ewest, assistant professor of business administration.

"Through the grapevine I heard that John went to Tanzania, and I heard about his project. Grants and organizational life I know a lot about, so I got behind him and helped him formulate a plan to raise money," Ewest said.

Ewest emphasized that although he has acted as a supporter, Kuckelman is the visionary.

"Every student I know has something they would like to see changed. The interesting thing with John is he's doing something about it," Ewest said. "It's wonderful to think that somebody someday will be getting care from him. It's one thing to find an avocation, which is a job. It's another thing to find a vocation, which is a quality."

The total amount needed for the healthcare project is $30,000. This includes the machine, the chemicals that run it, one year of lab technician training, transportation and set up in Morogoro. Among the committed donors is Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, which will match funds raised in a Wartburg Culture Week raffle in March.

"Every single donation is helpful and accepted," Kuckelman said.

The CD4 machine will be purchased from Meteor Medical Company, which makes affordable, high-quality medical supplies obtainable for healthcare facilities in developing nations.

"I don't like coming back from such a powerful experience and letting it get put on the back burner until I'm a physician. I want to stay active there, and this is the perfect way to do it," Kuckelman said. "Once this is obtained and sent over, it'll be on to the next project. This isn't the mountaintop peak for me. It's just one of the campsites."

Feagans is a communication arts major and Spanish minor from Lake Zurich, Ill.

This photo shows the garden of the Lutheran Junior Seminary Language School, where Kuckelman and his fellow students would study.

This is the view of the Uruguru Mountain range. Kuckelman awoke to this view each morning, and it was the view he saw while studying Kiswahili at the Lutheran Junior Seminary Language School.

Be Orange

As a Wartburg alumna, I challenge everyone to do what we can to get the word out for recruiting students to Wartburg. With our economy in trouble, I think we need to get students on campus to show all the great things that Wartburg has to offer whether it is a field trip or attending an athletic event on campus.

In October, I encouraged my business club to visit a couple of different colleges so they could see firsthand what a typical day at Wartburg, a smaller campus setting, would be like compared to the University of Northern Iowa, a larger campus setting.

My principal said I could only do this if we had another group involved with us—to make it worth the time and money for a bus and bus driver. So I encouraged the

Teacher Carlene Schipper Bergeson '83, back row left, brought students from Hampton-Dumont High School to visit campus last fall.

anatomy class to join us. We ended up having 62 students sign up for the field trip.

Two years ago, we did this and had 25 students go on this field trip. I believe we have five Hampton-Dumont students that are now at Wartburg. With the help of the Wartburg Admissions Office, I was able to get tour guides lined up so we could see many of the highlights on a campus tour.

I know there are a lot of smaller (high) schools that have cut their funds and are not allowing field trips. I encourage alumni to contact schools in your town and help sponsor field trips. I truly feel students get more out of being on campus than listening to someone tell them how great it is. I know many students talked about the trip afterward, and how they loved the atmosphere of a smaller campus compared to UNI. I had our student newspaper staff take pictures so they could write an article for our hometown paper, telling what they liked about each campus setting.

As a teacher and coach, I think we all need to be reminded that students are always watching and listening to what we say. I know I learned of Wartburg from my business teacher having a calendar and Wartburg poster in his classroom. Wearing Wartburg shirts and getting students interested in hearing about how we were able to participate in college athletics at the Division III level—and would not have been able to at Division I—make them feel they, too, can participate. Encouraging band and vocal students to try out for the Meistersinger scholarships has convinced many Hampton-Dumont students to audition.

Every student who has taken my algebra classes at Hampton-Dumont knows I graduated from Wartburg, because I always have my Wartburg banner hanging on my wall in my classroom. When they ask where Wartburg is, I can give them the pep talk about how I loved a college this size. I emphasize how I was able to know personally my track coach, Liz Wuertz, my business professor, (Gloria) Campbell, and my math professor, (Lynn) Olson, and how they did everything they could to help me get a business, math and coaching degree all in four years—without having to go a fifth year.

Every time we recruit another student, we help keep Wartburg alive.

Be Orange!
Carlene Schipper Bergeson '83
Hampton-Dumont business/mathematics teacher

Wartburg Magazine received this unsolicited letter from Carlene Schipper Bergeson '83 after she brought a group of her students to visit campus in October.

Students learn while living together

by Emily Schmitt '11

Residents of Löhe Hall are driven to learn outside the classroom.

To gain a spot in the residence hall, they develop and explore an educational topic of interest to them and the others in their suite, learning from each other during the year.

Each suite explores a unique topic chosen by its members. The topic results from a common interest or theme among the group that correlates with Wartburg's mission statement.

"The goal is to incorporate the Wartburg mission statement into your daily living situation through the exploration of an educational learning project," said Carl Hoeg '09, Löhe Hall project coordinator.

Applicants for Löhe Hall must identify a topic, outline specific plans to explore the topic and illustrate how each group member will benefit. The groups range from three to eight people.

"We go through the projects and try to pick out the ones with highest overall quality. We try to get a diverse array of projects," Hoeg said.

This year, suites' emphases include volunteering at Bremwood Children's Home, exploring world religions, reading and discussing banned books and sustainability.

Every month, each group must produce a tangible product of their learning. Many groups hang posters and photos outside their suite charting their progress, while some maintain Web sites.

When they apply, each group identifies an adviser in the Wartburg community and the role he or she will have in completing the project during the year.

"The adviser's role is determined by the group when they apply," Hoeg said. "Some advisers are very heavily involved, and they'll come work with the students on their monthly activities. Others meet with their group a couple times a year and are more of a resource."

Allison Juhl, Löhe Hall director, said other schools have learning communities, but they usually focus strictly on academics.

"This is completely student-driven, from the conception and creation of the project, to the learning goals that are set, to the expression/reflection and completion of the project," Juhl said.

Each step of the project is a learning point for the students, said Juhl. Löhe Hall residents students are encouraged to educate themselves outside Wartburg's classrooms.

"It provides an opportunity for them to learn more about their topic and each other—kind of a self-learning and self-help environment," Hoeg said.

Schmitt is a communication arts major and leadership minor from Hawkeye, Iowa.

Top photo: Students, faculty, staff and members of the community participated in the Feed My Starving Children packing event at Wartburg, where more than 100,000 meals were prepared.

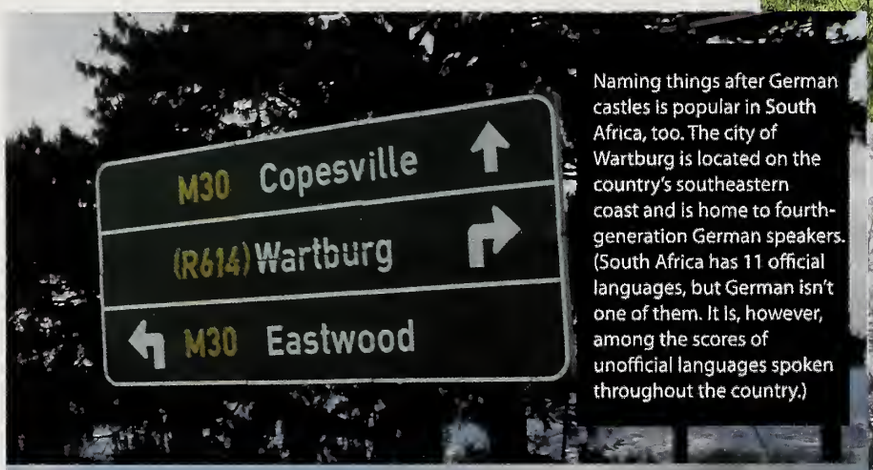
These photos depict suitemates (clockwise from top left) Stehpanie Thrall '10, Ashley Ritter '10 and Jenna Zenk '10 during a day spent volunteering at the Salvation Army in Waterloo. Their Löhe suite project is called "Celebrating Life" and focuses on their passion for the value of all human life. To express this, they volunteer monthly and learn from the people they serve.

Travelogue: South Africa

In November, *Wartburg Magazine* editor Karris Golden '98 took part in a study seminar sponsored by Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and ELCA Global Mission. The seminar, "Women Building Global Community," brought together U.S. women and women from Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe for an educational advocacy program focused on gender justice, issues of race and class, poverty, land use and the global AIDS/HIV pandemic.

As part of her participation in the trip, Karris, a member of Trinity American Lutheran Church in Waterloo, Iowa, made a commitment to share things she learned with others. For the *Wartburg Magazine* audience, she elected to share photos that capture a small part of South Africa's ancient beauty.

Animals at game reserves near Hluhluwe often intermingle with little incident. Here, a water buffalo grazes near a family of giraffes.

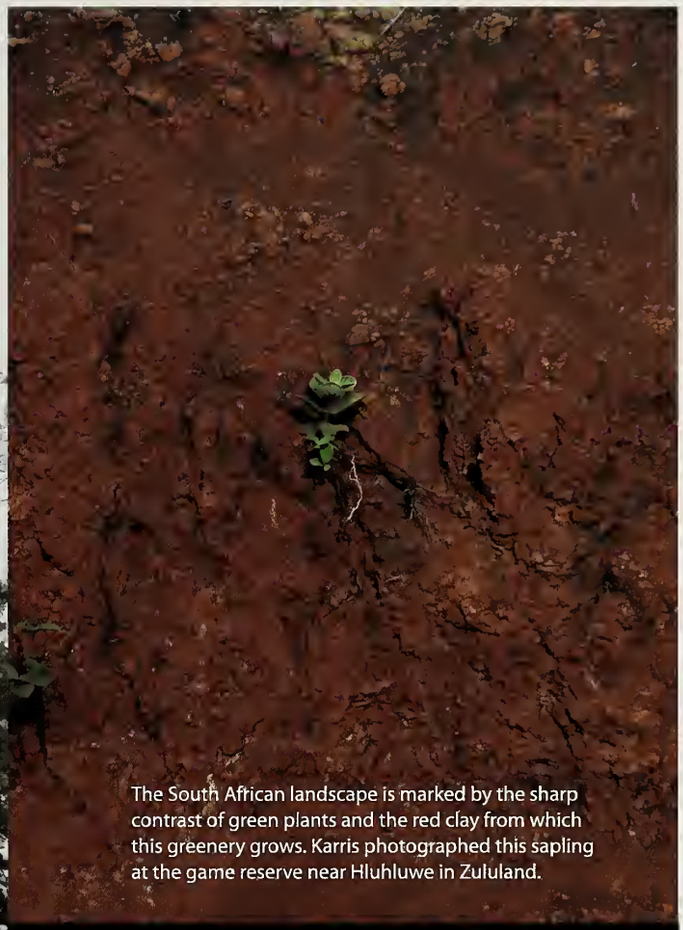


Naming things after German castles is popular in South Africa, too. The city of Wartburg is located on the country's southeastern coast and is home to fourth-generation German speakers. (South Africa has 11 official languages, but German isn't one of them. It is, however, among the scores of unofficial languages spoken throughout the country.)

Among the places the participants stayed was the Umpumulo Church Center, which is near the Umpumulo Lutheran Cathedral, above, a rural area in Mapumulo Kwa-Zulu Natal on the southeast coast of South Africa. The cathedral boasts an amazing youth choir and other thriving ministries.

Game reserves near Hluhluwe, Zululand, offer open-vehicle drives where participants can view beautiful vistas like the one above—and possibly catch of glimpse of South African wildlife.

U.S. and sub-Saharan study seminar participants took advantage of opportunities to explore communities by walking. Here, they are shown walking in the village of Mapumulo, Kaw-Zulu Natal.



The South African landscape is marked by the sharp contrast of green plants and the red clay from which this greenery grows. Karris photographed this sapling at the game reserve near Hluhluwe in Zululand.

South African men of Zulu heritage keep traditions alive and entertain visitors with tribal dances and music.

To check out the blog maintained by Women Building Global Community-South Africa participants, go to http://www.wbgc2008southafrica.blogspot.com/.

Tibbott made family from friendships

You make friends in high school. You make friends for life in college.

by Terry Letsche '89

I have always been in awe of anyone who can meet someone new, find something in common, and in only a few minutes, strike up a friendship. Everyone, it seemed, knew Rick Tibbott '91, and he knew a lot of people. Friendships were important to him.

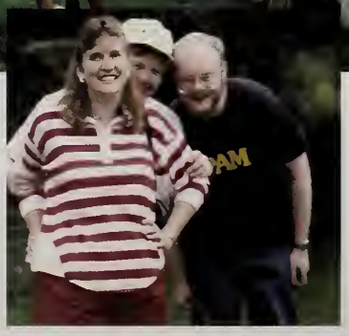
I first met Rick in fall 1988, when he joined the Wartburg College Concert Band as a transfer student. We were roommates the following May for a month-long band tour of Europe, where we had so many adventures that people who know us are tired of hearing about them.

After graduation, Rick stayed in contact with many of us. Once he'd moved back to eastern Iowa to become a band director at Starmont Community School in Arlington, Iowa, it seemed natural to have regular get-togethers with college friends. In 1990, Rick suggested a weekend campout with friends and cousins on some family land north of Greeley, Iowa. Over the years, it was always Rick who organized these irregular parties and graciously acted as host. He helped us stay in touch with so many of our Wartburg friends.

Two years ago, Rick was diagnosed with colon cancer. Through several surgeries and three separate rounds of chemotherapy, Rick and his family never gave up hope. However, this past July Rick's wife, Sheila, called to say that the latest surgical and oncological reports gave no reason for hope; they were out of options, and death was inevitable.

I went to see Rick a few days later and suggested that we have another one of his parties. I offered to organize it. Mark '90 and Karla Seaton '91 Beckman, who, like Rick, lived in Manchester, would host it. All we asked of Rick was that, if possible, he join us.

Two weeks before the party, Rick entered home hospice care. He was unable to attend the party, but groups of people went to his house to see him.



Partygoers wait for supper. They are, from left: JoAnn Knipfer Sherman '92, Todd Letsche '92, Mark Luethje '92, Greg Drewes '89, Julie Spencer '89, Paula Sienknecht Anderson '90, Dr. Terry Letsche '89, Susan Olson Garbe '90 and Scott Garbe.

At right, Susan Olson Garbe '90, Mark E. Beckman '90, Terry Letsche

The party was a strange contrast of somber adults and happy children. We talked about old times at Wartburg, memories of experiences and adventures with Rick and road trips he and friends made across the Midwest to visit people he hadn't seen for too long. As trite as it sounds, we laughed together; we cried together; we offered our silent prayers of thanks for the life Rick had been given and shared with us.

We were united once more as the family we truly were, brought together again by and for the person who had kept us connected over the years.

Rick Tibbott '91 created an annual gathering in 1992 as a reason for members of the Wartburg College Concert Bands to get together over the summer. Tibbott hosted the gathering near Greeley, Iowa, his hometown, until 2008. He loved to cook, especially for friends. His specialties included red velvet cake and rhubarb cake.

Rick died the next morning. He would have been 41 on Oct. 6. Sheila told me he had looked forward to the party—truly one last chance to connect with friends. Our memories of Rick are a permanent part of all our lives, a legacy of our times together that began at Wartburg College.

You make friends in high school. You make friends for life in college.

Letsche is assistant professor of computer science at Wartburg.

In Memoriam

1933
DR. VINCENT CARSTENSEN, Waverly, Iowa, died Dec. 1 at the Waverly Health Center. He graduated from the University of Iowa College of Medicine in 1939. He served as a flight surgeon with the 99th Bomb Wing squad of the U.S. Army during World War II and at other military installments through 1945. He then practiced medicine in Waverly until his retirement.

1937
MELVIN E. EYBERG, St. Joseph, Mo., died Sept. 5 at a St. Joseph, Mo., health care facility following a lengthy illness. He spent 2 ½ years in the Pacific Theater with the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II. He worked as an announcer and newscaster for KFNF Radio in Shenandoah, then served as the first personnel manager and later vice president at Henry Field Seed and Nursery.

1945
The **REV. DR. VICTOR ROLAND GOLD**, Oakland, Calif., died Sept. 17 at the Salem Lutheran Home. He earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and a doctoral degree in Old Testament studies from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. Ordained in 1946, he served churches in Texas, Maryland and Michigan. He was assistant professor of Old Testament at Hamma Divinity School, Springfield, Ohio, and Henry C. Lucky Professor of Old Testament at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Berkeley, Calif., where he served for more than 50 years. He retired from PLTS in 2004 but continued to teach part time.

1950
MILTON M. SCHAUER, McIntosh, N.D., died Aug. 25, 2007, at St. Alexius Medical Center, Bismarck.

1955
The **REV. DR. ALTON ZENKER**, Hot Springs Village, Ark., died Nov. 12 at home. He earned Master of Divinity and Doctor of Divinity degrees from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Wartburg College. He was ordained in 1959 and served congregations in North Dakota and Illinois. He was assistant to the bishop for the Illinois district of the former American Lutheran Church and assistant to the bishop and bishop of the Central and Southern Illinois Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He served on the Wartburg Board of Regents and ELCA Conference of Bishops. He also served as interim pastor at Christ Lutheran Church in Hot Springs Village and interim bishop for the Grand Canyon Synod (Arizona).

1956
DR. WALTER E. PILGRIM, Steilacoom, Wash., died Nov. 27 at home. He was professor of religion at Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, director of the Lutheran Institute of Theological Education in the Northwest, and an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Parkland.

The **REV. ROGER L. TELLOCK**, Clintonville, Wis., died Sept. 25 at the Appleton Medical Center. A former dairy farmer, he graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and served congregations in Wisconsin and Canada. He was police chaplain in several Wisconsin counties.

1957
HARLEY G. WESCOTT, Frederika, Iowa, died Oct. 22 from complications of cancer. He joined the U.S. Army Reserve during college and went to active duty after graduation. He later worked for Leuthold Johannsen's clothing store, which he bought and renamed Wescott's Men's Plus Big & Tall. He sold the business and retired in 2003.

1958
LAWRENCE ACHORN, Berthoud, Colo., died June 29 at home. He studied French at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, and the Sorbonne in Paris, France, and earned a Master of Arts in reading education from the University of Minnesota. He taught in the St. Vrain Valley School District until retiring in 1992.

1959
ELROY B. SCHONEWEIS, Lincoln, Neb., died Jan. 23.

1961
MELVIN J. SCHULZ, Waverly, Iowa, died Nov. 8 at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, of multiple myeloma. He taught instrumental music at Newhall and worked at John Deere. He later owned and operated his own business, Mel's Appliance Service. Survivors include Tod Schulz, Wartburg systems architect and database administrator, and sisters Mildred Dieter '55 and Bernice Kimball '57.

LEROY SCHARNHORST, Lake Havasu City, Ariz., died Nov. 3 at home. He earned a master's degree in school administration from the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls. He served 42 years as a public school teacher and administrator in Iowa and Arizona schools.

1963
The **REV. DAVID BRUNSCHEEN**, Evergreen, Colo., died Oct. 4 at Jones Regional Medical Center in Anamosa, Iowa. He served seven parishes and retired after 27 years with Lutheran Church of the Cross in Evergreen.

1967
LESLIE HOLLAND, Elysian, Minn., died Sept. 11. He worked in Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado and Minnesota. A longtime golfer, he started a golf education program for children 4 to 15. It has grown to more than 100 participants.

1970
BARBARA VAN HAUEN FREY, Cherokee, Iowa, died Nov. 7 near Beresford, S.D., of injuries from an automobile accident. She worked for the Department of Human Services for 25 years, serving the O'Brien County Office, the office in Cherokee/ Plymouth Counties, the Sioux City District Office, the Plains Area Mental Health Center in Cherokee and as therapist for Associates for Psychological and Therapy Services in the Sioux City and Cherokee area. She had also worked for the Buena Vista Work Activities Center in Storm Lake.

1971
JACQUELINE PETERS, Nashville, Tenn., died Oct. 1 at St. Thomas Hospital of cancer. She worked in customer service.

1976
KIM MURPHY, Topeka, Kan., died Sept. 25 at Stormont Vail Hospital of pneumonia. He worked for the Iowa Department of Transportation, Howard Green Engineering, Fred Carlson Company and Koss Construction as quality control manager.

2006
BRYCE MERCER, Des Moines, Iowa, died Oct. 17 in Marshall County, Iowa, of apparent homicide. His alleged killer awaits trial. He was a member of the Wartburg football team for four years and majored in finance and economics. He was employed at Principal Financial Group at the time of his death.

Former staff
BERYL BJORGAN, Waverly, Iowa, died Dec. 1 at Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community. She taught in a one-room schoolhouse and public schools in Southern Minnesota prior to marriage. She worked as Wartburg librarian for 25 years. Her husband, the late G. Rudolph Bjorgan, was professor of history (1950-1984). She was active in the Wartburg Women club. Survivors include daughter Barbara Bjorgan Anderson '73 and grandchildren Sonja Anderson Gerstenberger '99 and Bryce Anderson '02.

Former Board of Regents
FREDERICK D. INFELT, Waverly, Iowa, died Nov. 28 at the Waverly Health Center. He owned and operated Waverly's Infelt's Department Store, the Carriage House clothing store and the Peppermint Stick children's store, and a Cedar Falls children's store. He served on the Wartburg Board of Regents from 1972-80. Survivors include daughter Dr. Susan Infelt-Work '71.

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New address, spouse, bambino or gig? Update your personal information, ask a question or find ways to help Wartburg.

www.wartburg.edu/alumni/update

THE ORANGE
Wartburg News and Information

Check out stories, event information, photo and video galleries, sports scores and more at

info.wartburg.edu/TheOrange

Do you know a high school student interested in attending Wartburg? Direct him or her to

www.wartburg.edu/admissions

Keep up with Wartburg athletics at

www.go-knights.net

THE Circuit
WARTBURG COLLEGE

Check out Wartburg student media at

info.wartburg.edu/thecircuit/

KnightLink lists full-and part-time job listings, internship information and other opportunities.

www.wartburg.edu/careers/knightlink
and click the "For Employers" link.

If you're interested in working at Wartburg College, check out the current faculty and staff openings at

www.wartburg.edu/hr

Save the date

April 5

Wind Ensemble Home Concert
2 p.m., Neumann Auditorium

Wartburg Choir Home Concert
6 p.m., Wartburg Chapel

Wartburg hosts the 2009 Iowa Conference Baseball Championships

May 7-9
Dale and Thomas Popcorn Field at Veterans Memorial Stadium, home of Cedar Rapids Kernels

Commencement

May 24
1:30 p.m. Hoover Fieldhouse

High School Leadership Institute
To recommend high school juniors, e-mail, michael.gleason@wartburg.edu or call 319-352-8651. Application deadline is April 1.

July 26-Aug. 1

Diers invest in Wartburg's mission

Dr. Herman '49 and Dorthy Diers

GIFT ANNUITY INCOME
One Life

AGE	RETURN RATES*
65	5.3%
70	5.7%
75	6.3%
80	7.1%
85	8.1%
90	9.5%

*Two-life annuities are available at slightly lower rates.

Establishing a charitable gift annuity is a simple way to provide for future Wartburg students while securing steady payments for yourself. It offers personal financial benefits, such as:

- Charitable income tax deduction
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- Portions of payments are tax-free

Although they have lived on the West Coast the past 15 years, Dr. Herman '49 and Dorothy Diers have maintained their connection with Wartburg.

Herman returned to Wartburg in 1959 as the college's chaplain. He went on to serve in many roles during his 35 years at Wartburg and was instrumental in implementing the Global & Multicultural Studies program.

Dorothy worked at Wartburg in the Student Life Office. She later worked with international programs, assisting the international students attending Wartburg.

"I sent students from Wartburg over to other countries and she welcomed students from other countries to come to Wartburg," said Herman.

The Diers retired to Tacoma, Wash., where they have continued their commitment to service. Tacoma recently honored the couple with the St. Francis Humanitarians of the Year award for service.

Herman has volunteered his time in Tacoma to the Hilltop Action Coalition, which hopes to transform Tacoma's violent hilltop community into a safe, family friendly environment. He has directed the organization for 15 years.

Dorothy has been involved with Tacoma's food banks, women's groups, First Lutheran Church social ministry team, Lutheran Community Services and Associated Ministries, an ecumenical association in their area.

They also continue to serve Wartburg. Their memorable experiences inspired them to establish a charitable gift annuity for the college's students.

"We believe in the mission of Wartburg," Herman said. "We were honored to be a part of that tradition. So much of our lives were committed to it; we were eager to see that mission carried forward."

The couple is grateful to Wartburg for offering professional opportunities and a place to raise their family.

"Waverly is a wonderful place to live. And our friendships with faculty, staff and students made it a rich experience," Dorothy said.

The Diers hope their gift will allow others to make memories similar to the ones they made at Wartburg. Like the Diers, donors can choose to direct their gift to the college's general fund, scholarships, endowed funds or special projects.

– Emily Schmitt

For a complimentary illustration and to learn about the benefits of charitable gift annuities, contact Scott Leisinger '87, vice president for institutional advancement, toll-free at 866-219-9115 or e-mail scott.leisinger@wartburg.edu.

My Time

While in New York City in March 2008, Chris Thomas '01 of Hinsdale, Ill., took this photo of Radio City Music Hall. He was in town to present at an international radio conference. While it's a great photo of a bona fide American institution, that's not why Thomas likes the photo. "It's a symbol of where a Wartburg education can take you," he says. "I never would have thought I would be presenting at a conference in the biggest city in America. But thanks to my time at Wartburg, the fellow students I encountered and the professors who shaped my life, I was able to attend and present at this conference."

Do you have an interesting photo or original artwork to share on the magazine's back cover? Submit your photo or artwork and a description of it by e-mailing karris.golden@wartburg.edu. Call 319-352-8277 with questions.

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